

POLICE

COMICS

DECEMBER No. 97

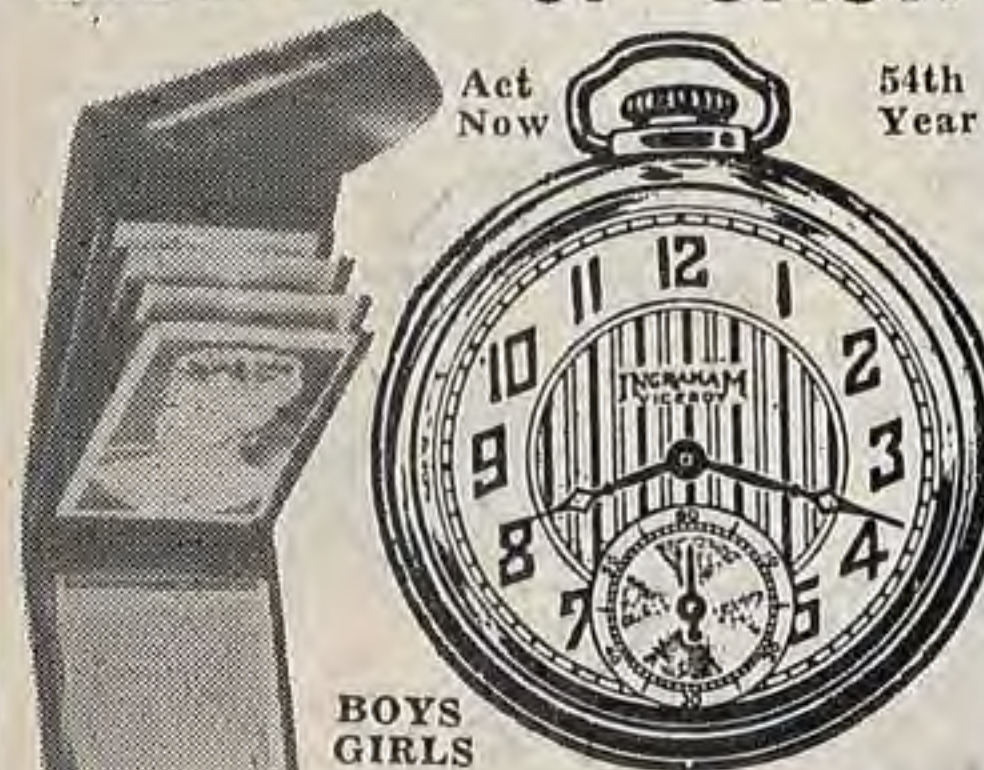
10¢

PLASTIC MAN
OUT MIMICS
MIME,
MASTER of MAKEUP!



**WEB COMIC
UNIVERSE.COM**

GIVEN PREMIUMS or CASH



BOYS GIRLS
 Pocket Watches, Wrist Watches, Billfolds (sent postage paid). Other Premiums or Cash Commission easily yours. **SIMPLY GIVE** pictures with White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE sold at 25 cents a box (with picture) and remit per catalog sent with order postage paid by us to start. Our 54th year. **WILSON CHEM. CO., Dept. 108-A, TYRONE, PA.**

PREMIUMS-GIVEN-CASH

54th Year
BOYS - GIRLS - LADIES - MEN — SEND NAME AND ADDRESS ON COUPON TODAY - NOW!

Genuine 22 Cal. Rifles, Lovable, Fully Dressed Dolls over 15 inches in height, Complete School Boxes, Pen & Pencil Sets, (sent postage paid). Many other Premiums or Cash Commission now easily yours. **SIMPLY GIVE** beautiful art pictures with White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE easily sold to friends, neighbors, relatives at 25 cents a box (with picture) and remit amount asked under Premium shown in catalog sent with your order postage paid by us to start. Write or mail coupon for starting order. Be first. **WILSON CHEMICAL CO., Dept. 108-B, TYRONE, PA.**



Boys
 Girls
 Ladies
 Men

Act Now

PREMIUMS GIVEN



Send Name And Address On Coupon

BOYS GIRLS LADIES MEN



WE ARE RELIABLE

Wrist Watches, Pocket Watches, Alarm Clocks, Radios, Record Players (sent postage paid). **SIMPLY GIVE** art pictures with White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE sold at 25 cents a box (with picture) and remit amount asked under Premium shown in catalog sent with order postage paid by us to start. **WILSON CHEMICAL CO., Dept. 108-C, TYRONE, PA.**

54th YEAR

PREMIUMS - CASH GIVEN

Boys - Girls Ladies - Men

Send Name And Address — We Trust You Footballs, Candid Cameras with Carrying Cases, Complete Cub Fishing Outfits (sent postage paid). **SIMPLY GIVE** pictures with White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE easily sold at 25 cents a box (with picture) and remit per catalog sent with starting order. **Wilson Chem. Co., Dept. 108-D, Tyrone, Pa.**



MAIL COUPON

Dept. 108-D, Tyrone, Pa.

GIVEN PREMIUMS or CASH COMMISSION



BE FIRST

ACT NOW



54th YEAR

BOYS - GIRLS - LADIES - MEN SEND NAME AND ADDRESS TODAY



Wrist Watches, Movie Projectors with roll of film, Weather Houses, Pencil Sharpeners (sent postage paid). Many other Premiums or Cash Commission now easily yours. **SIMPLY GIVE** beautiful pictures with White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE easily sold to friends, neighbors, relatives at 25 cents a box (with picture) and remit amount asked under Premium shown in catalog sent with your order postage paid by us to start. Our 54th year. We trust you. Be first. **WILSON CHEMICAL CO., Dept. 108-E, TYRONE, PA.**

Mail Coupon

GIVEN

Act Now
 BE FIRST

BOYS - MEN —
 1000 Shot Daisy Air Rifles with tube of shot (sent postage paid). **SIMPLY GIVE** beautiful pictures with White Cloverine Brand Salve easily sold at 25 cents a box (with picture) and remit per catalog sent with your order postage paid by us to start. Write or mail coupon today. Our 54th year. We are reliable. **WILSON CHEM. CO., Dept. 108-F, TYRONE, PA.**

Mail Coupon Today

WILSON CHEM. CO., Dept. 108, TYRONE, PA. Date.....
 Gentlemen:—Please send me on trial, twelve colorful art pictures with twelve boxes of White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE to sell at 25c a box (with picture). I will remit amount within 30 days, select a premium or keep Cash Commission as fully explained under Premium wanted in catalog sent with my order postage paid to start.

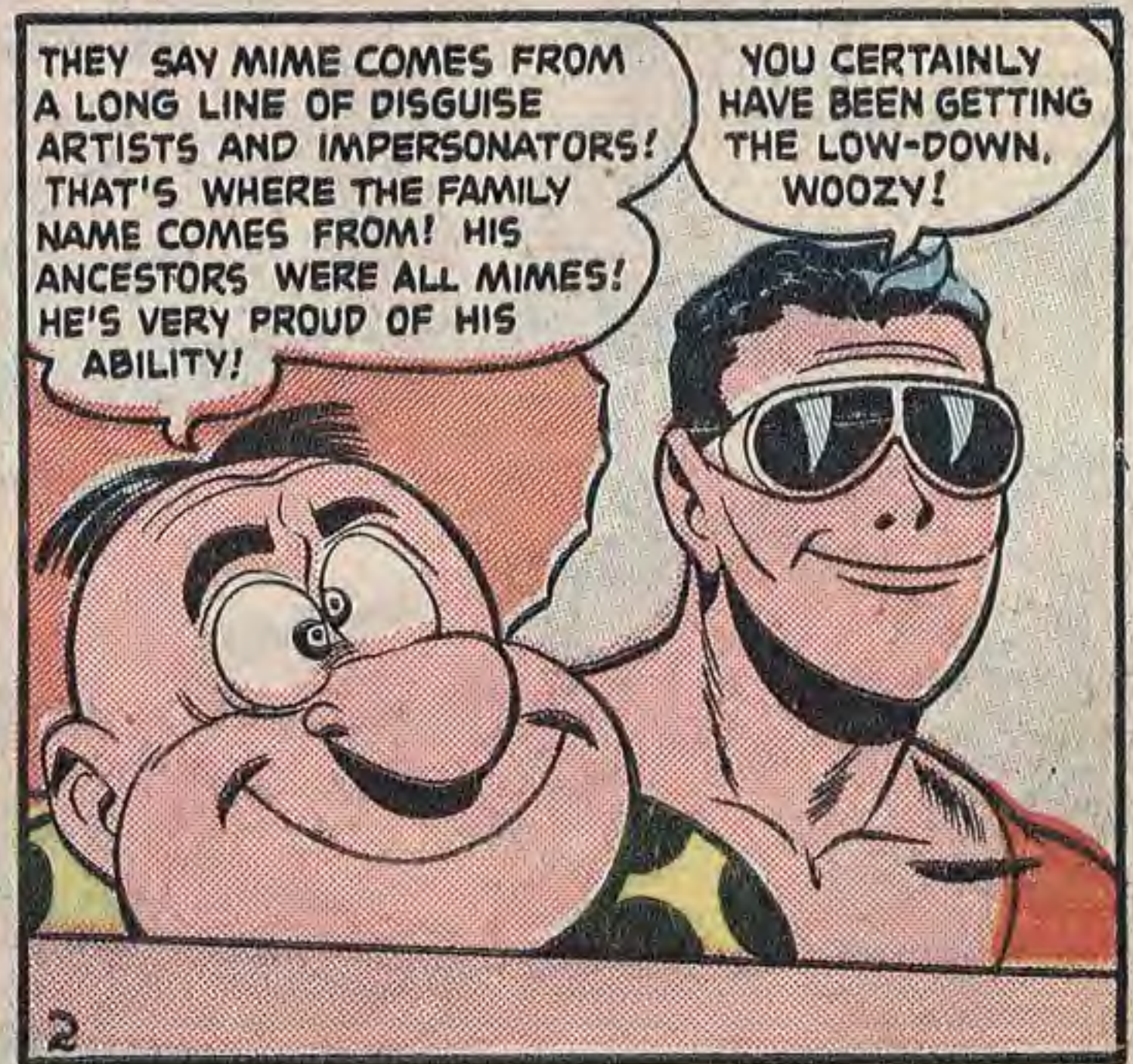
NAME AGE
 ST. R.D. BOX.....
 ZONE.....
 TOWN No. STATE.....
 Print LAST Name Here
 Write or paste coupon on postal card or mail in an envelope

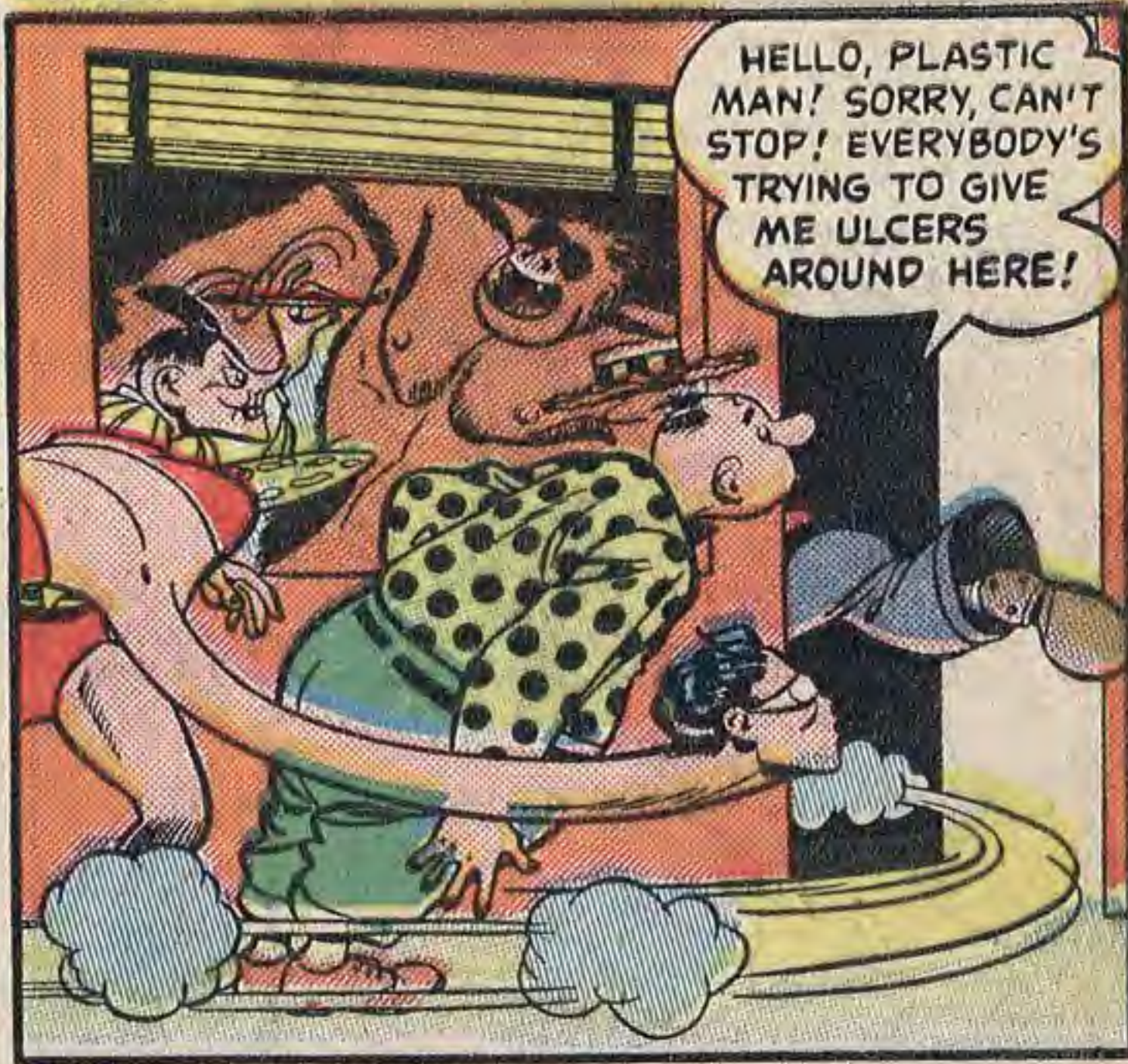
PLASTIC MAN

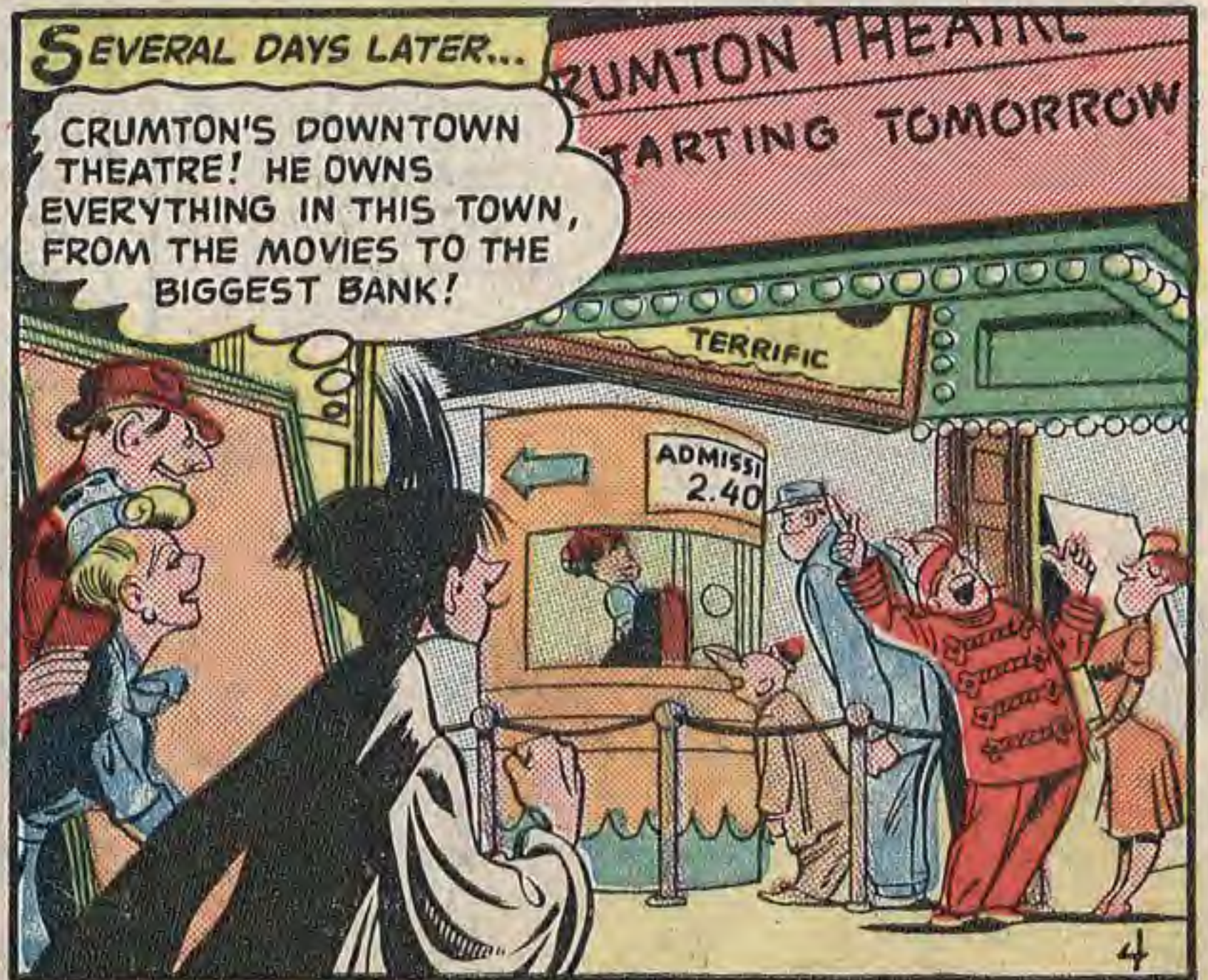
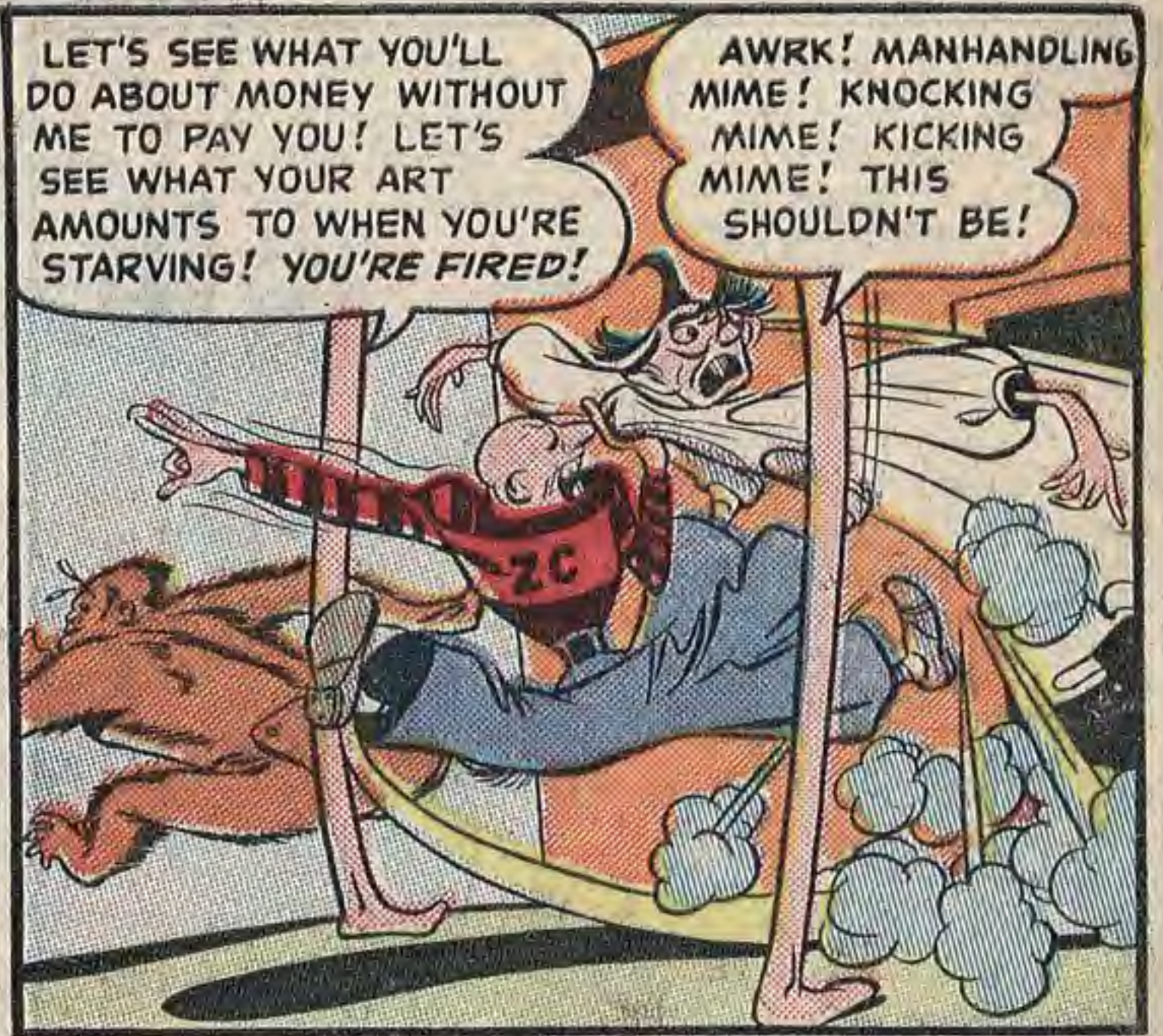
WITH MY KNOWLEDGE OF
MAKEUP AND DISGUISE, I CAN
GET AWAY WITH ANYTHING!
PLASTIC MAN CAN NEVER
SPOT ME BUT I'LL ALWAYS
RECOGNIZE HIM!

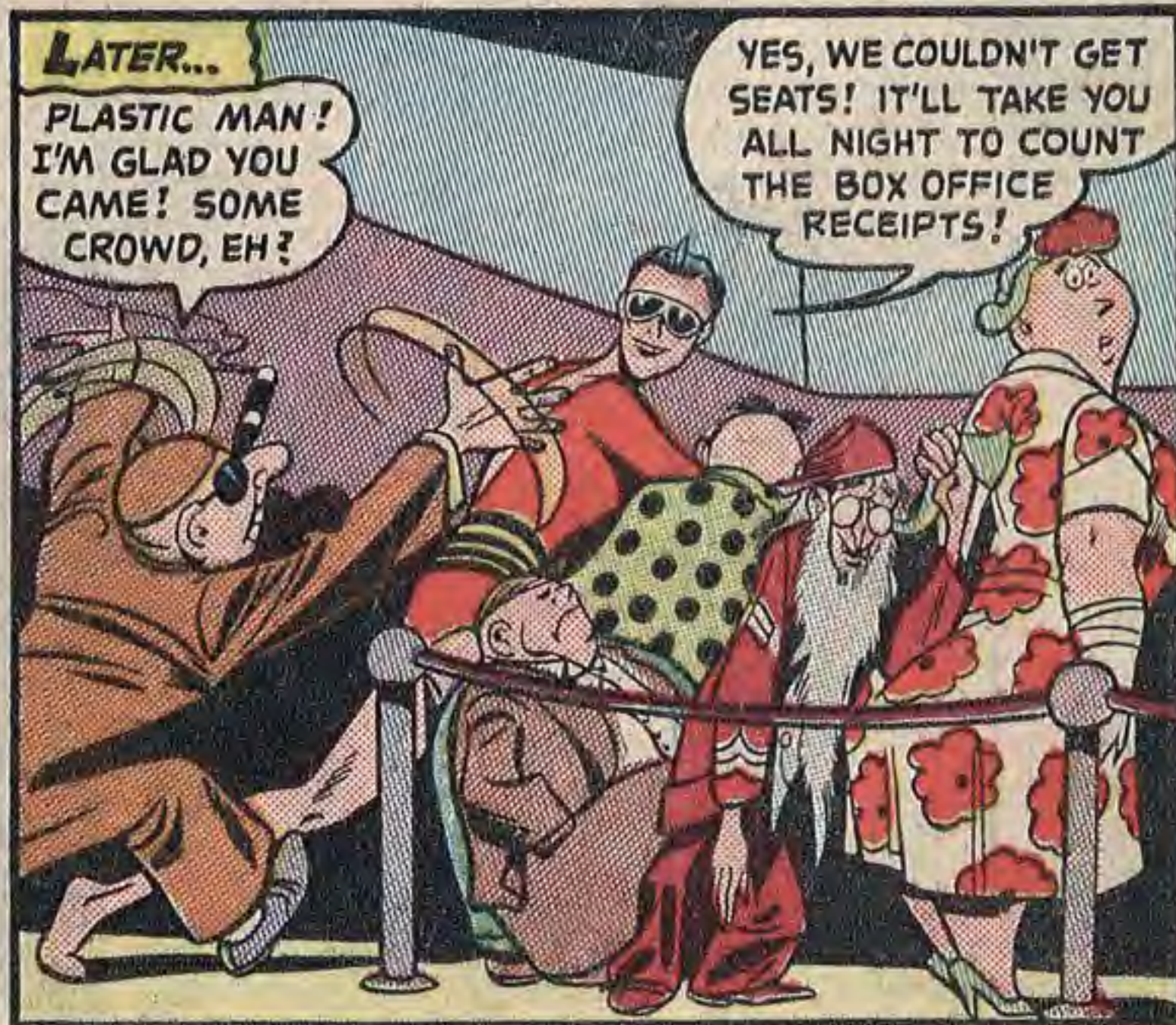


POLICE COMICS









LOOKS LIKE SHE CHECKED THE RECEIPTS ON HER OWN... CHECKED OUT WITH THEM, AS A MATTER OF FACT!

GRAWK! YOU CAN'T TRUST ANYBODY THESE DAYS! SHE LOOKED SO HONEST!



DO YOU KNOW WHERE SHE LIVES? THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE SHE WENT HOME BEFORE GOING ANY-PLACE ELSE! GIRLS DON'T SKIP TOWN WITHOUT LUGGAGE!

YES! COME ON! I MEAN, I'M COMING!



IT'S LOCKED... BUT THAT'S AN ODD NOISE! SOUNDS LIKE SOMEBODY TRYING TO TALK THROUGH A GAG!

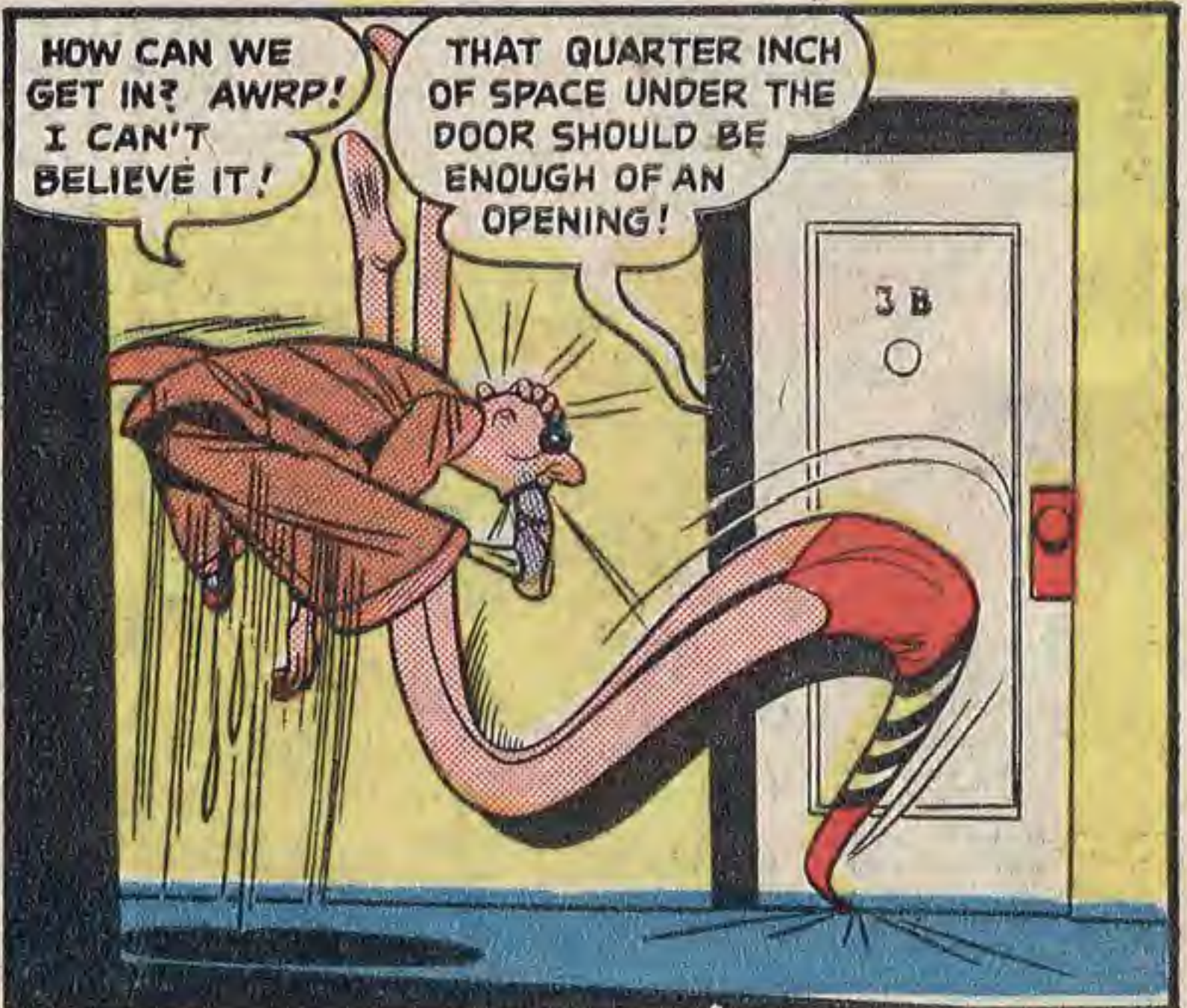
MRMPF!

3 B



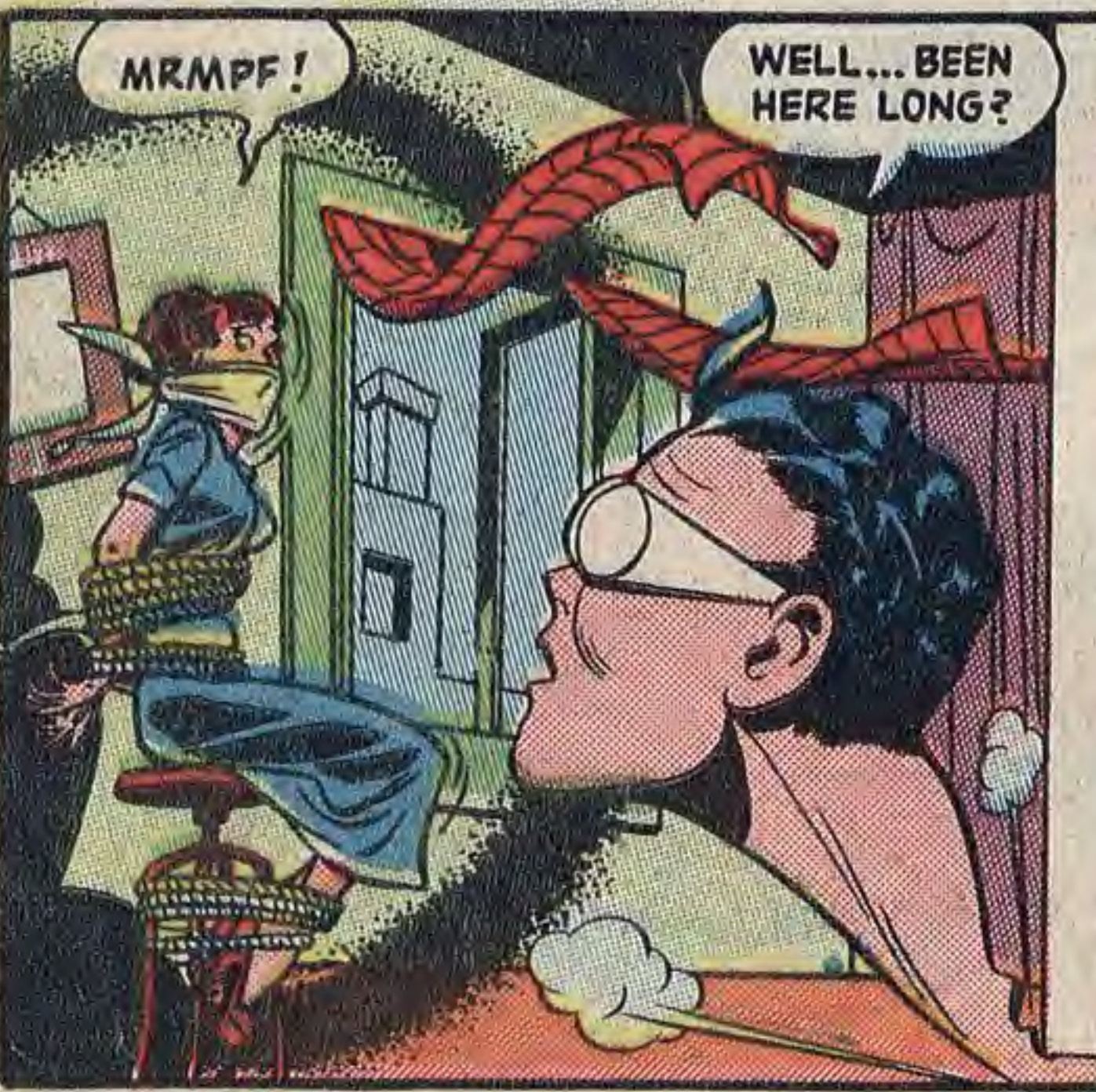
HOW CAN WE GET IN? AWRP! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!

THAT QUARTER INCH OF SPACE UNDER THE DOOR SHOULD BE ENOUGH OF AN OPENING!



MRMPF!

WELL... BEEN HERE LONG?

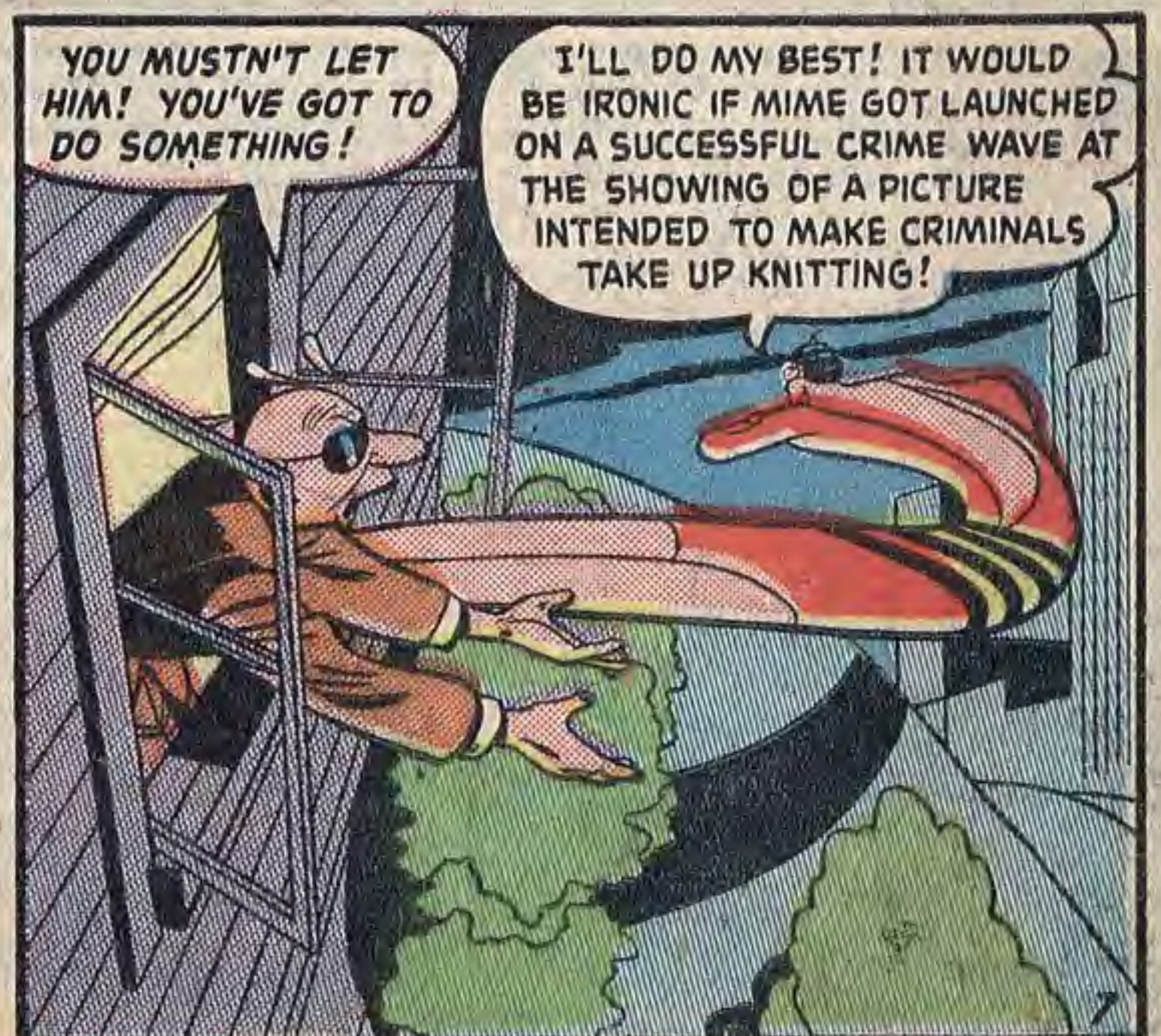
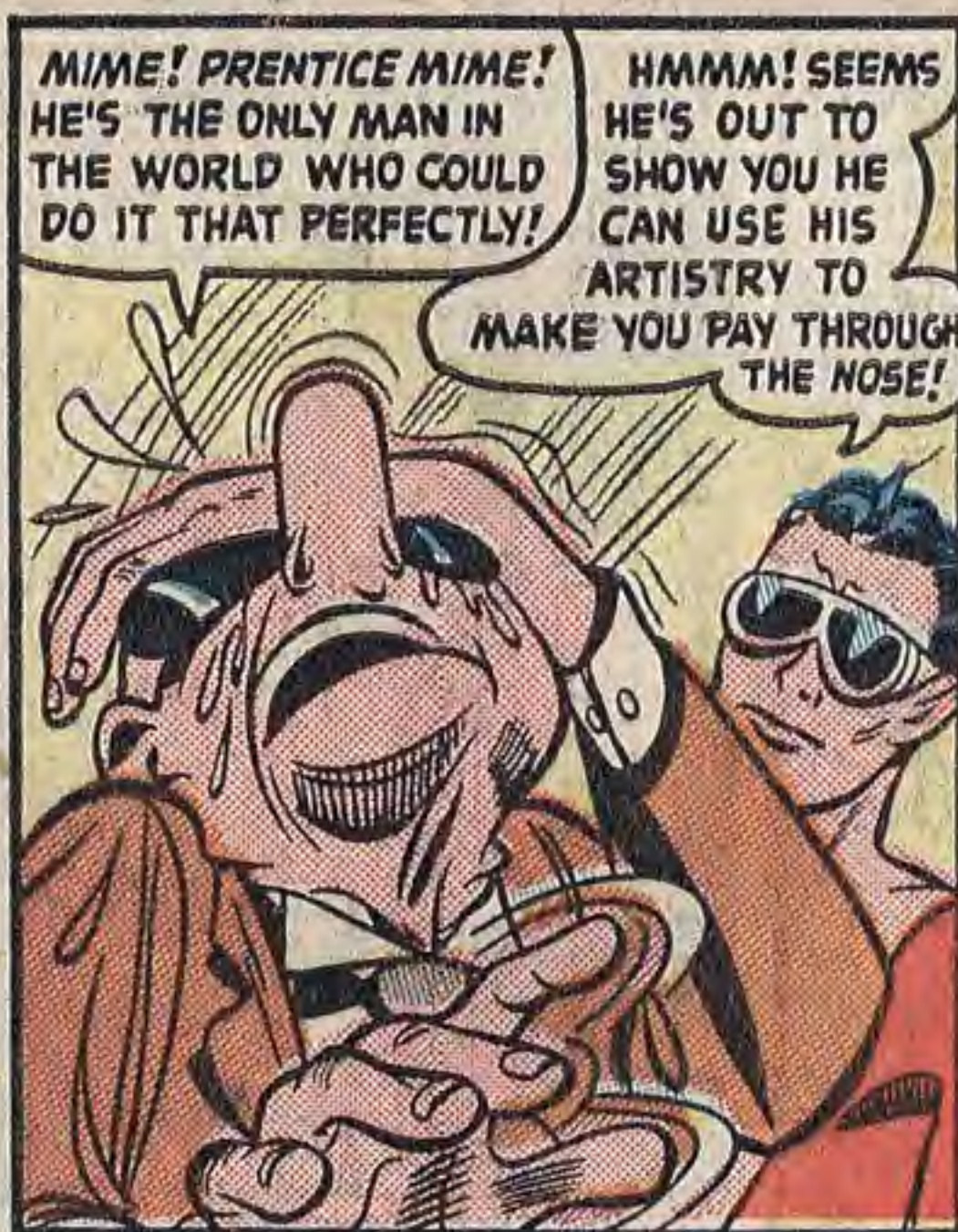


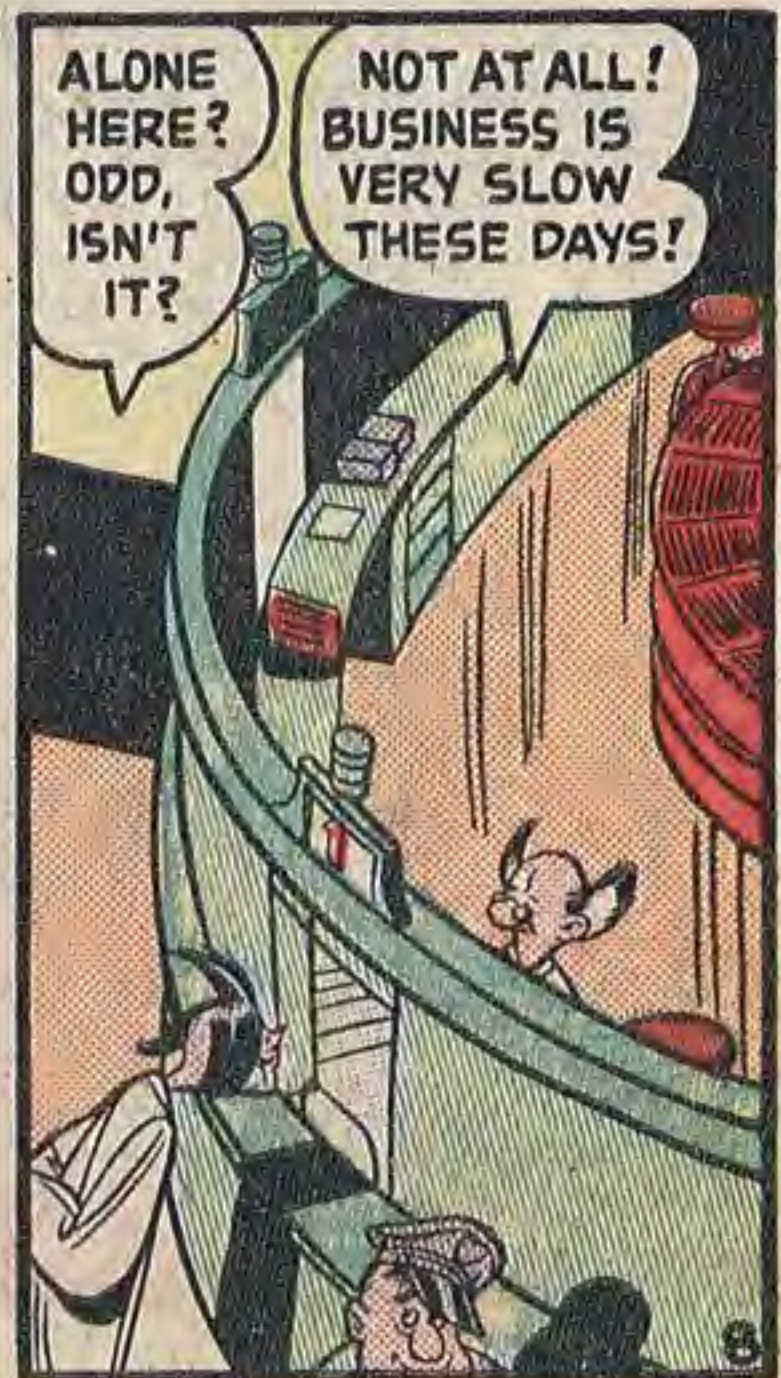
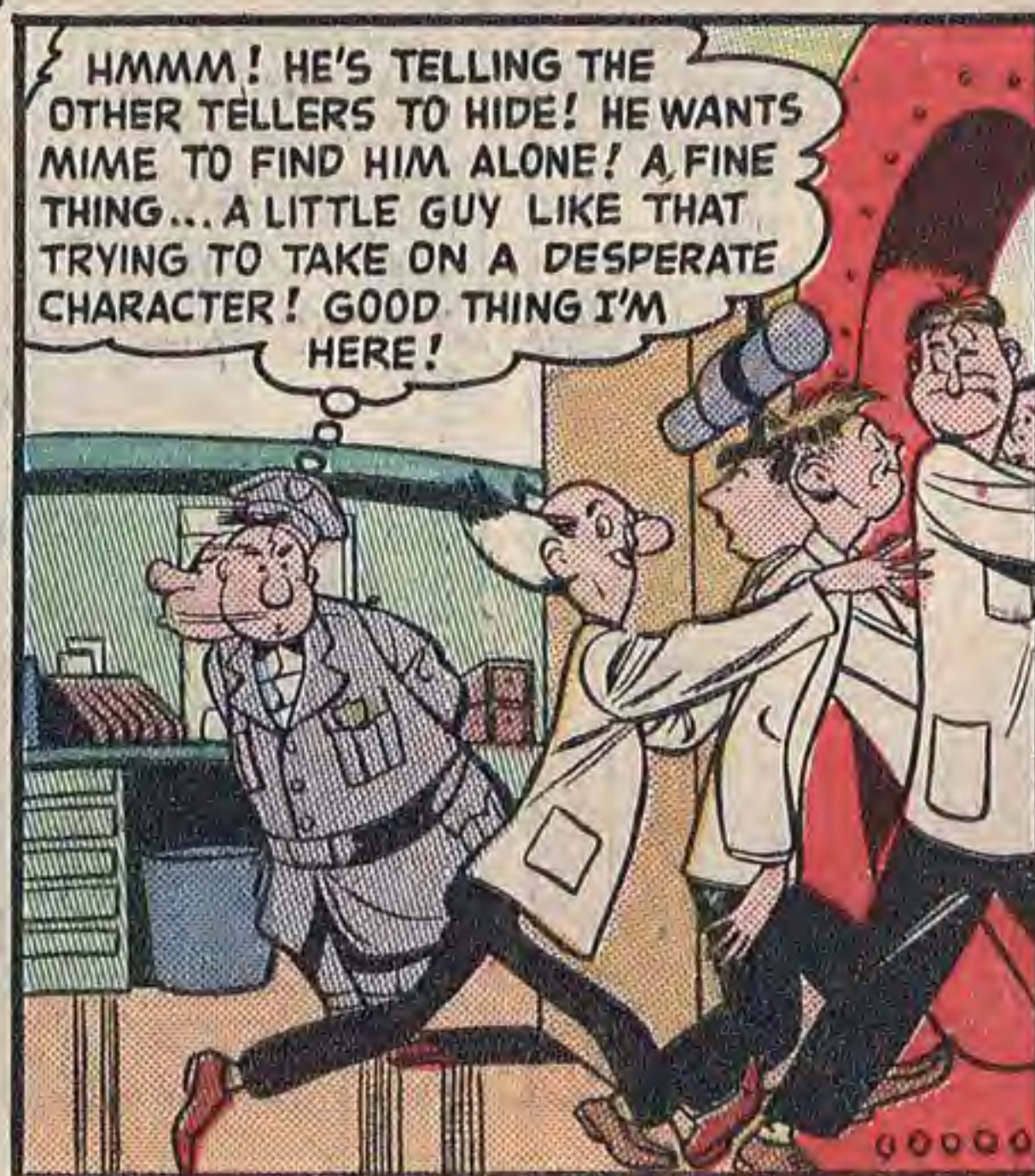
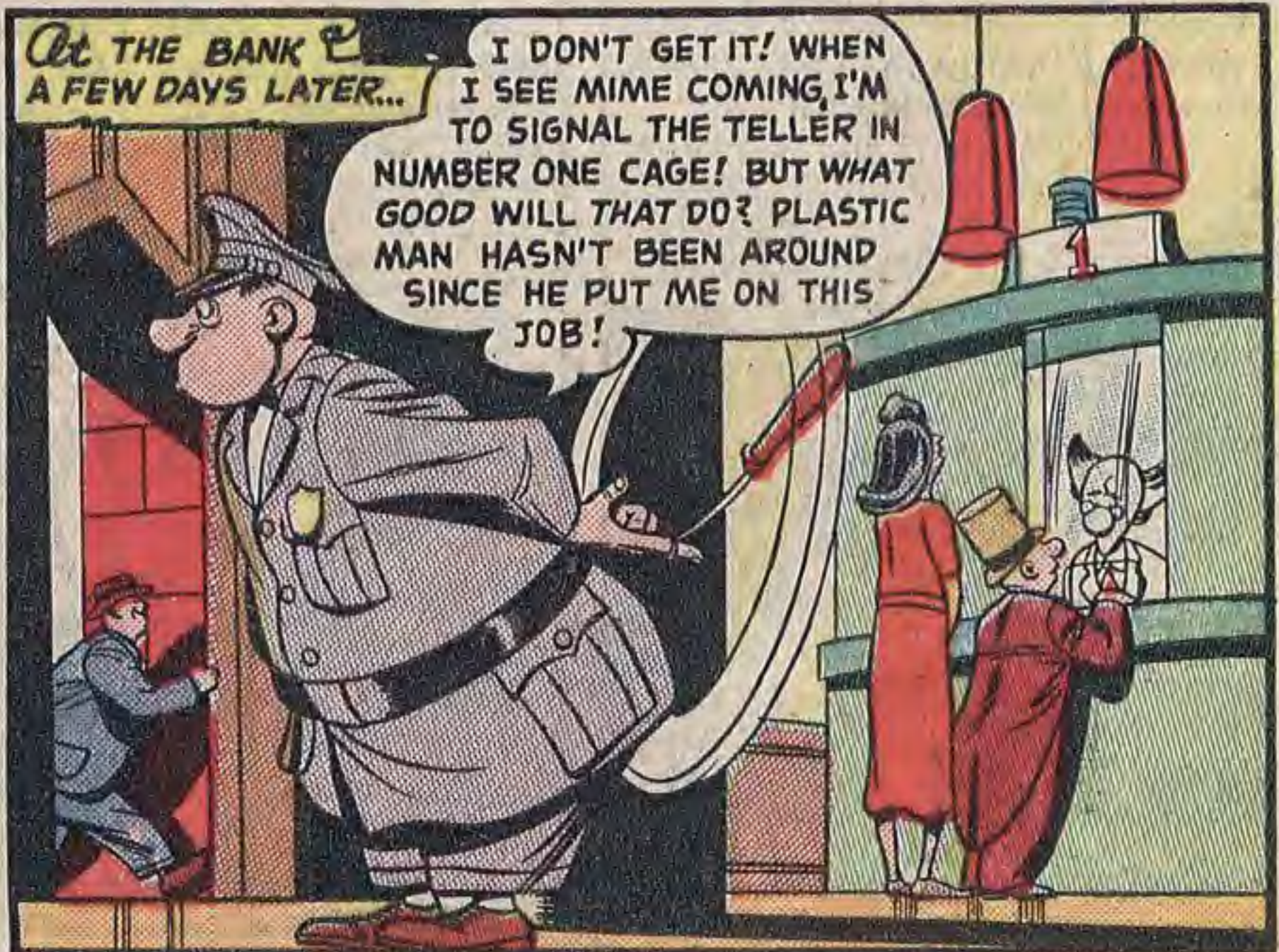
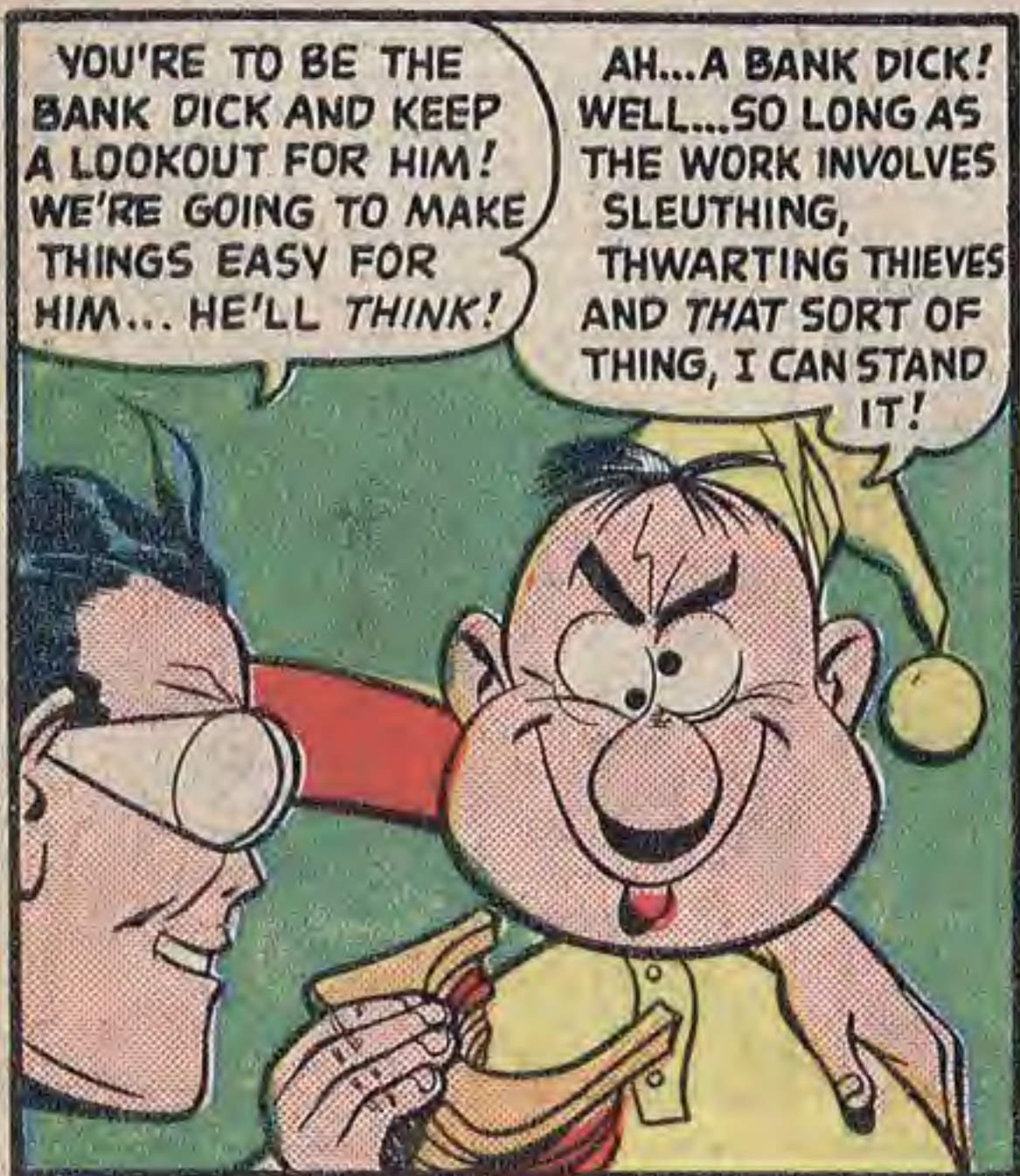
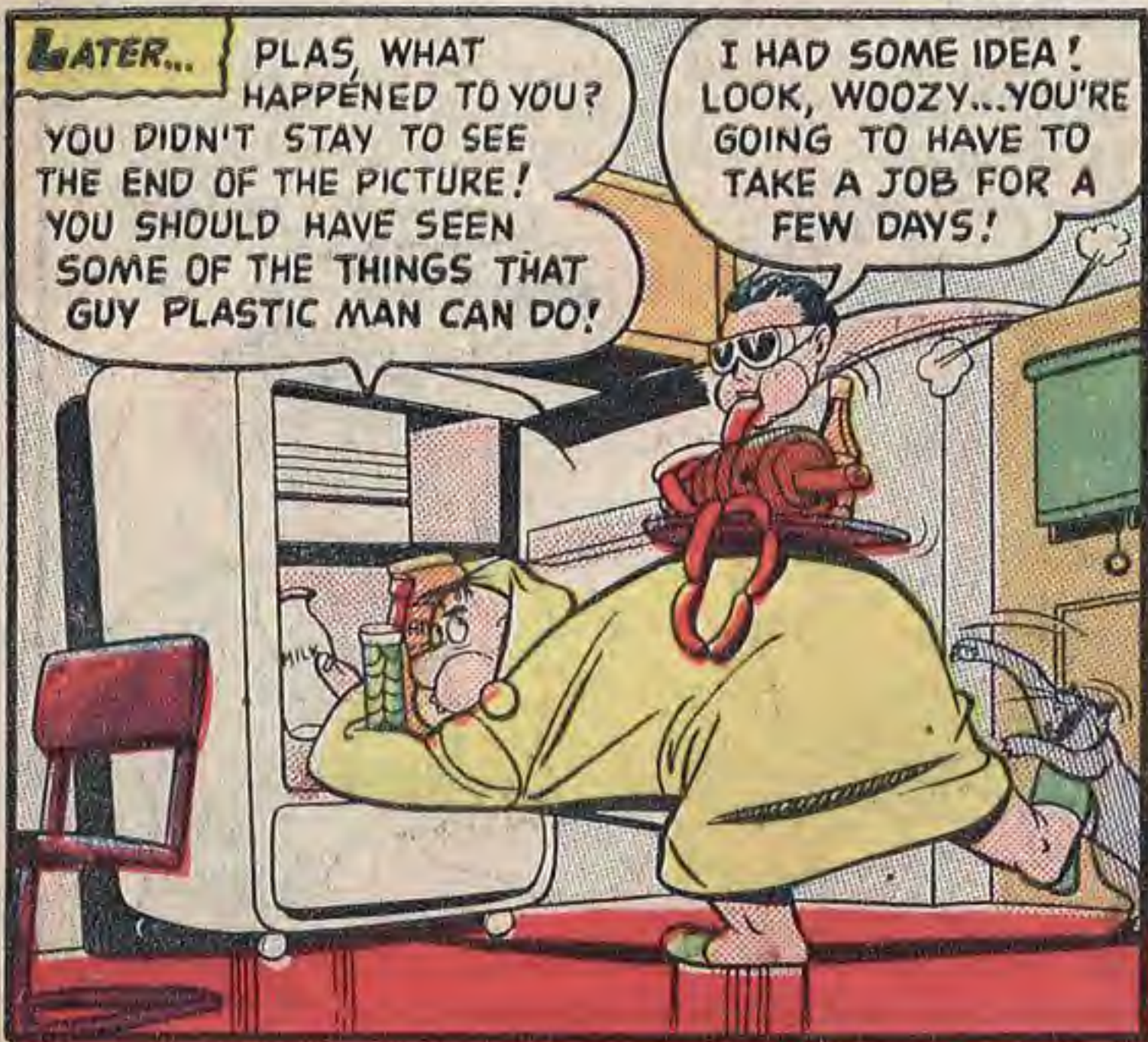
YOUR CASHIER, ALL RIGHT, ISN'T SHE?

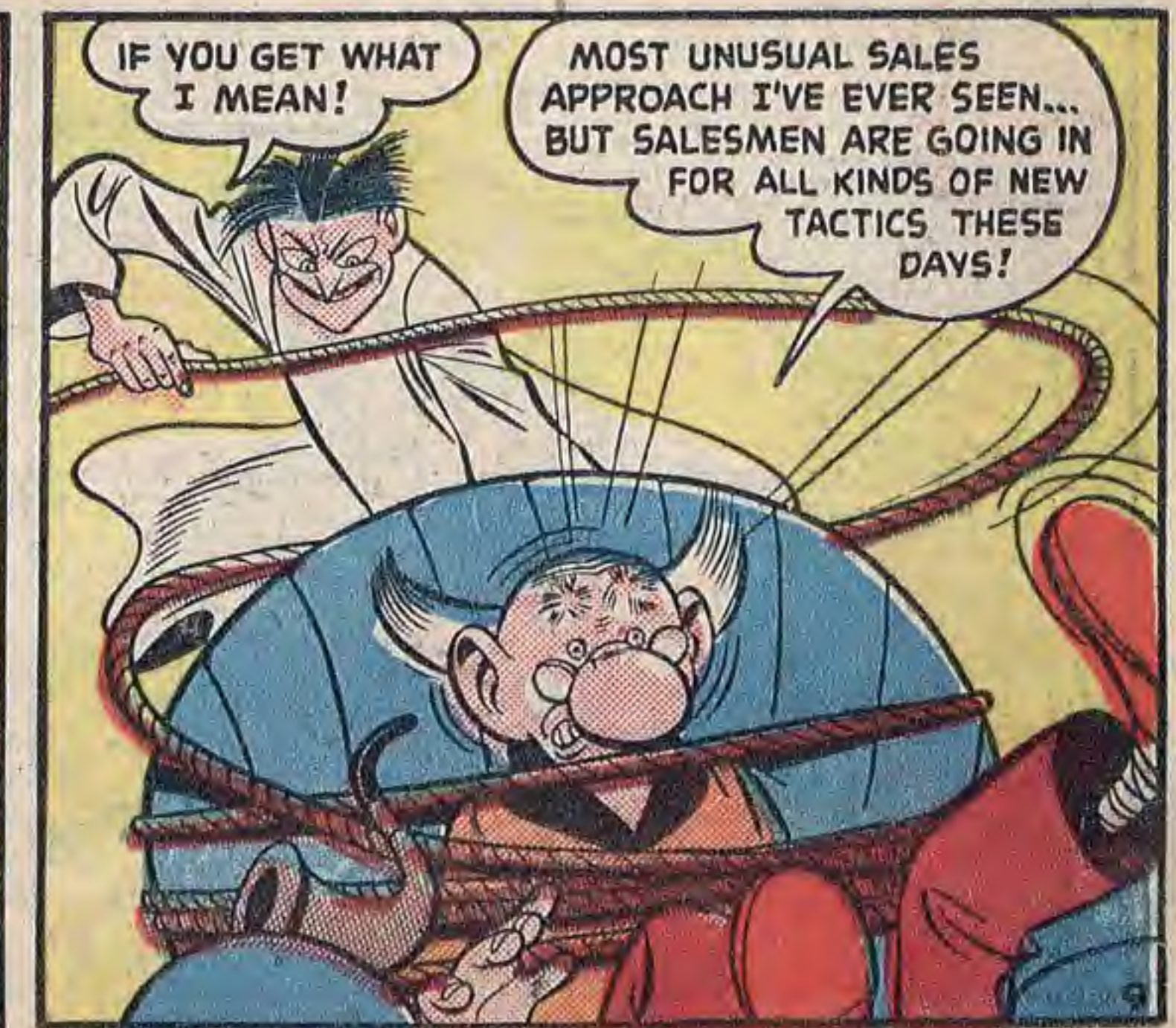
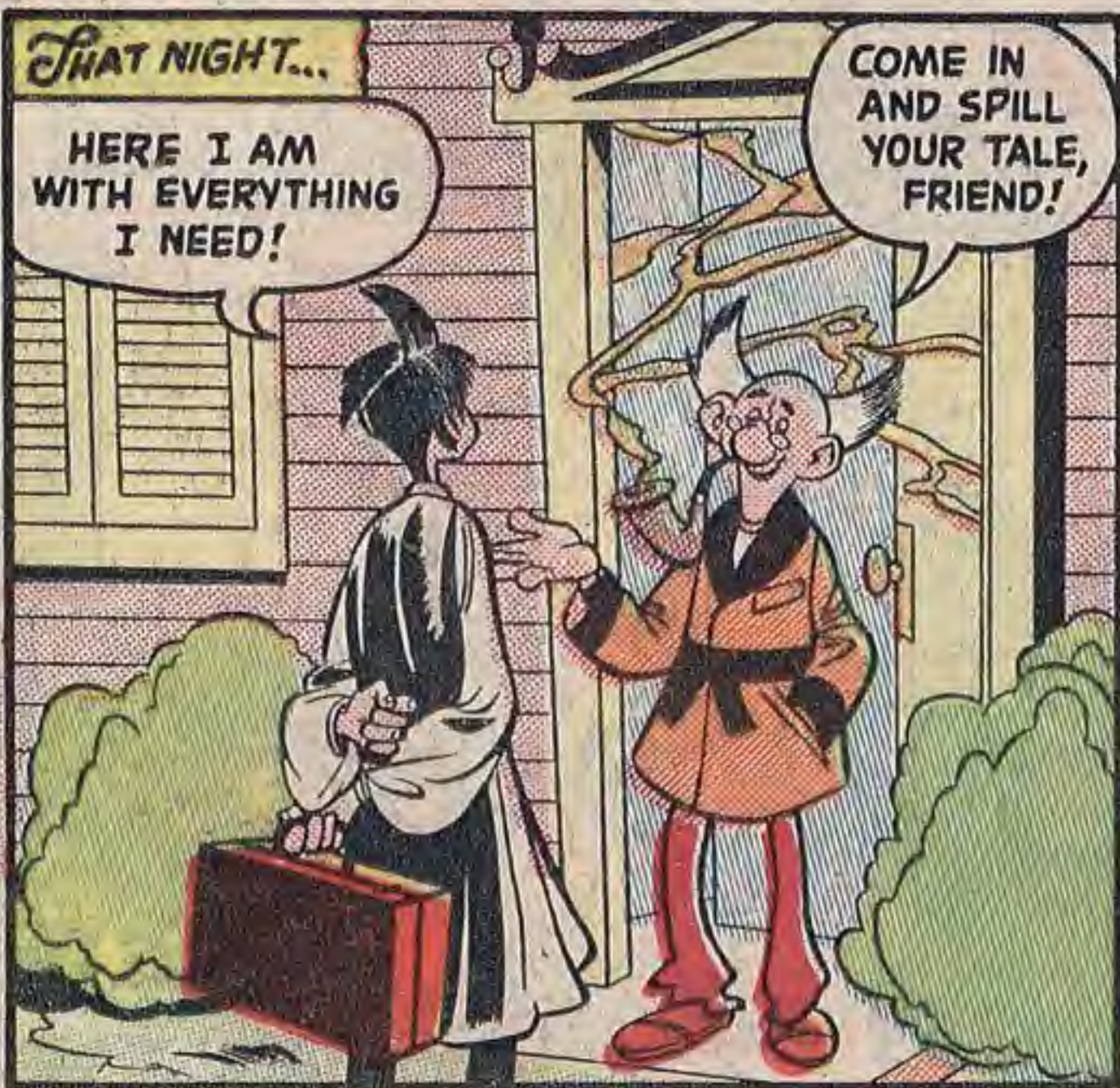
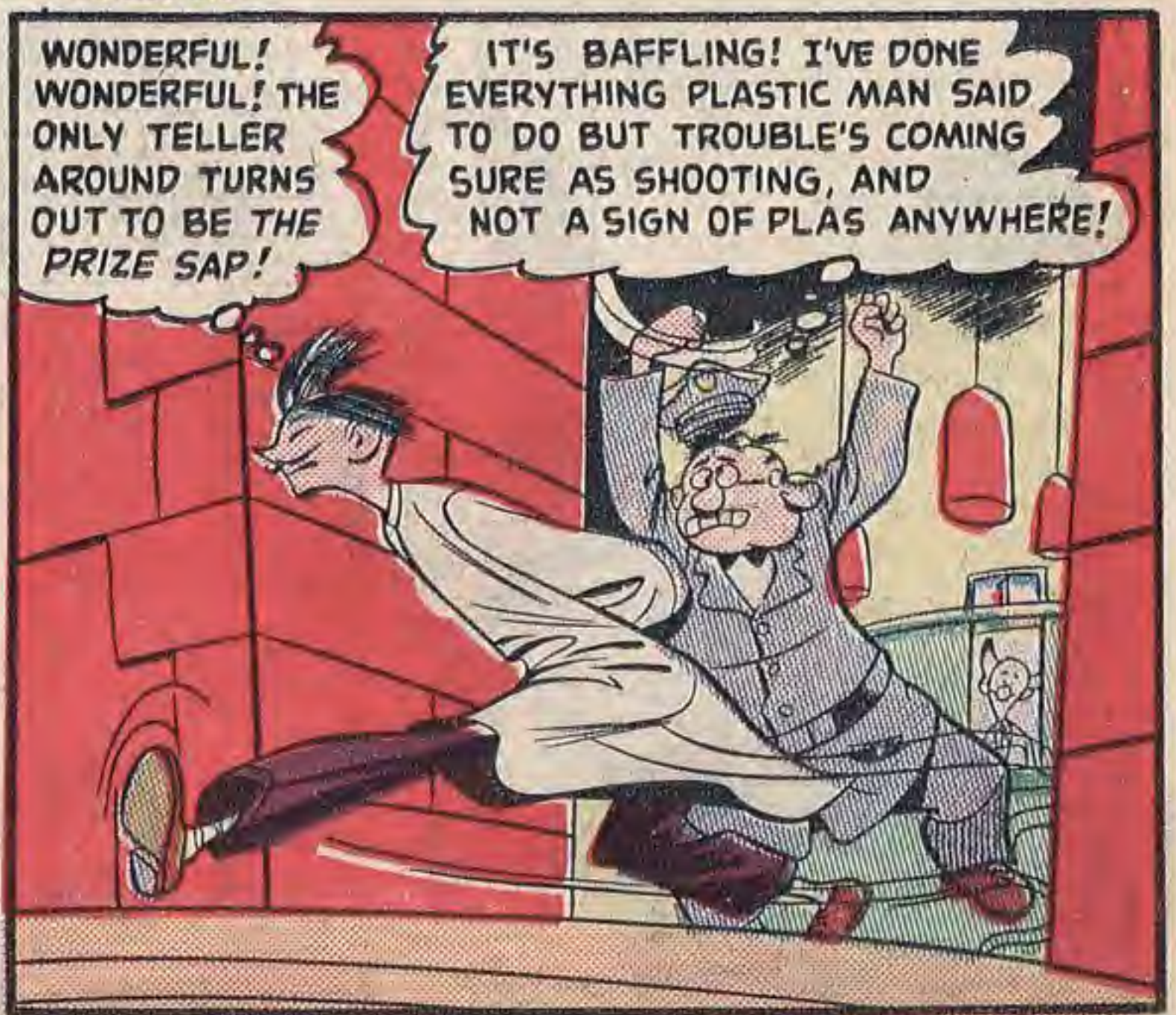
SHE CERTAINLY IS... AND IF THAT'S A SYMPATHY STUNT TO PALM THE ROBBERY OFF ON SOMEBODY ELSE, SHE WON'T GET AWAY WITH IT!



POLICE COMICS







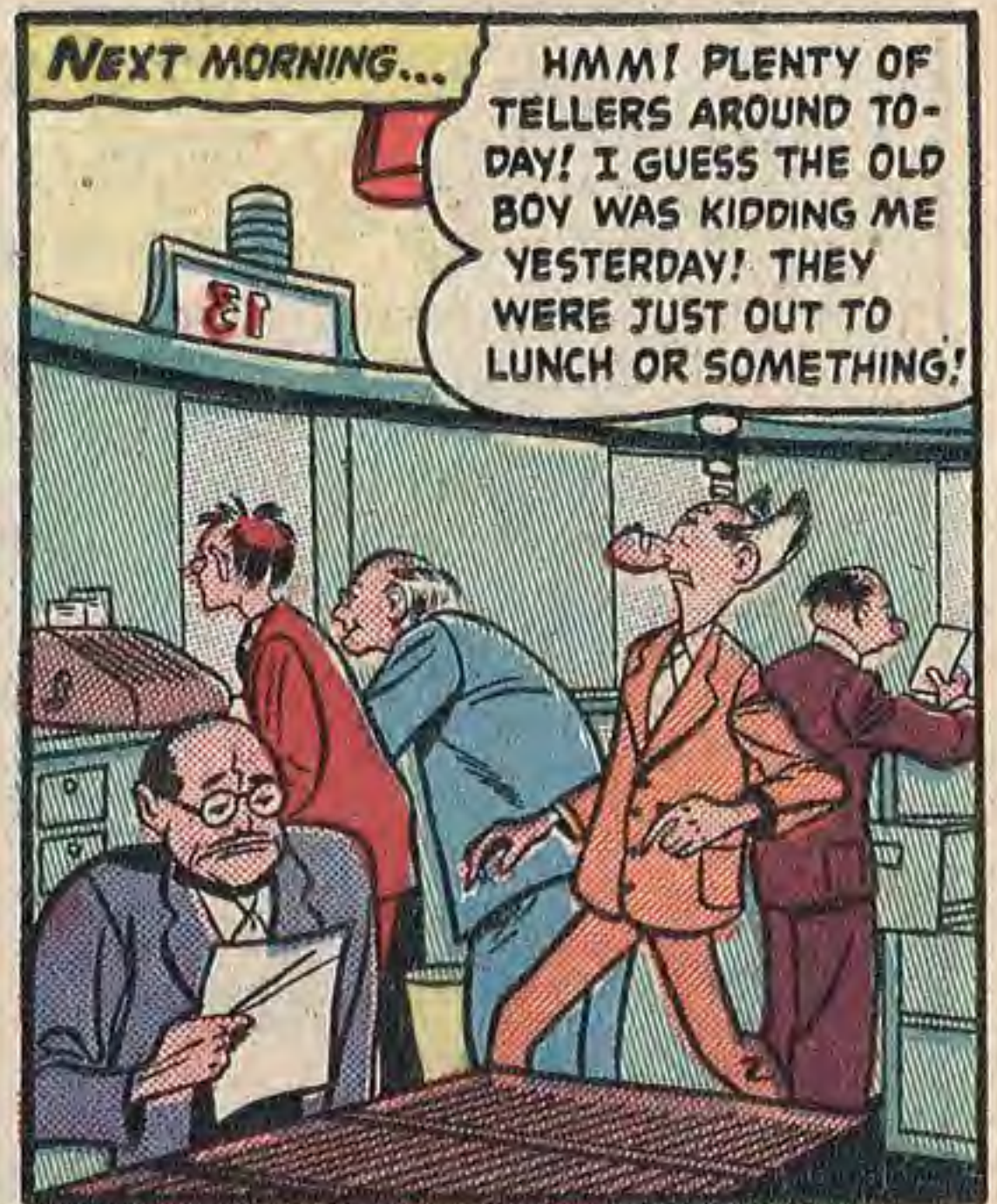
POLICE COMICS



THAT DOES IT!
I'M YOU!

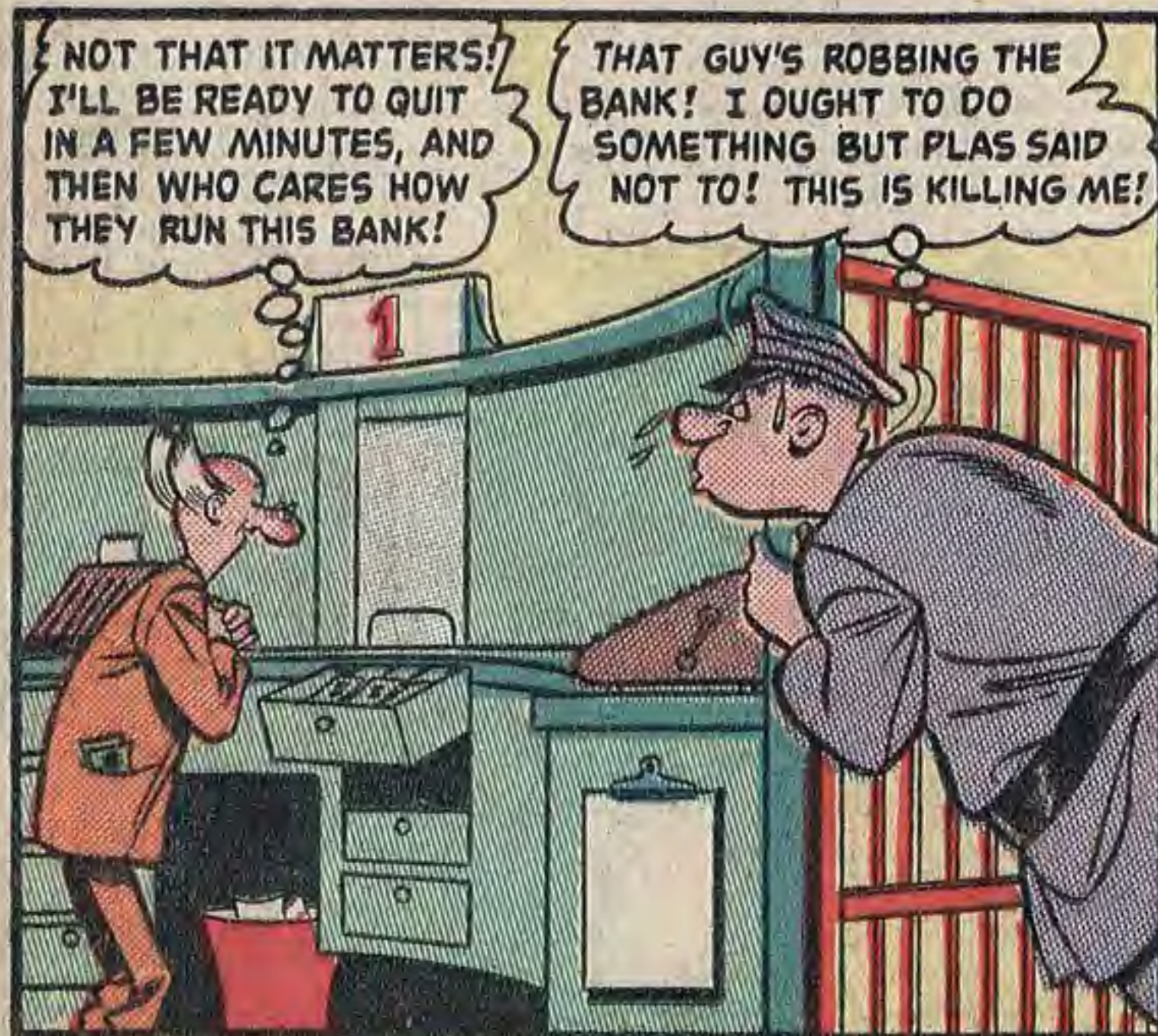


WITH THE WINDOWS AND
DOORS LOCKED, YOU'LL KEEP
FINE UNTIL I'VE GIVEN MR.
CRUMTON HIS SECOND LESSON
IN HOW NOT TO TALK TO
PRENTICE MIME! GOOD-BYE!



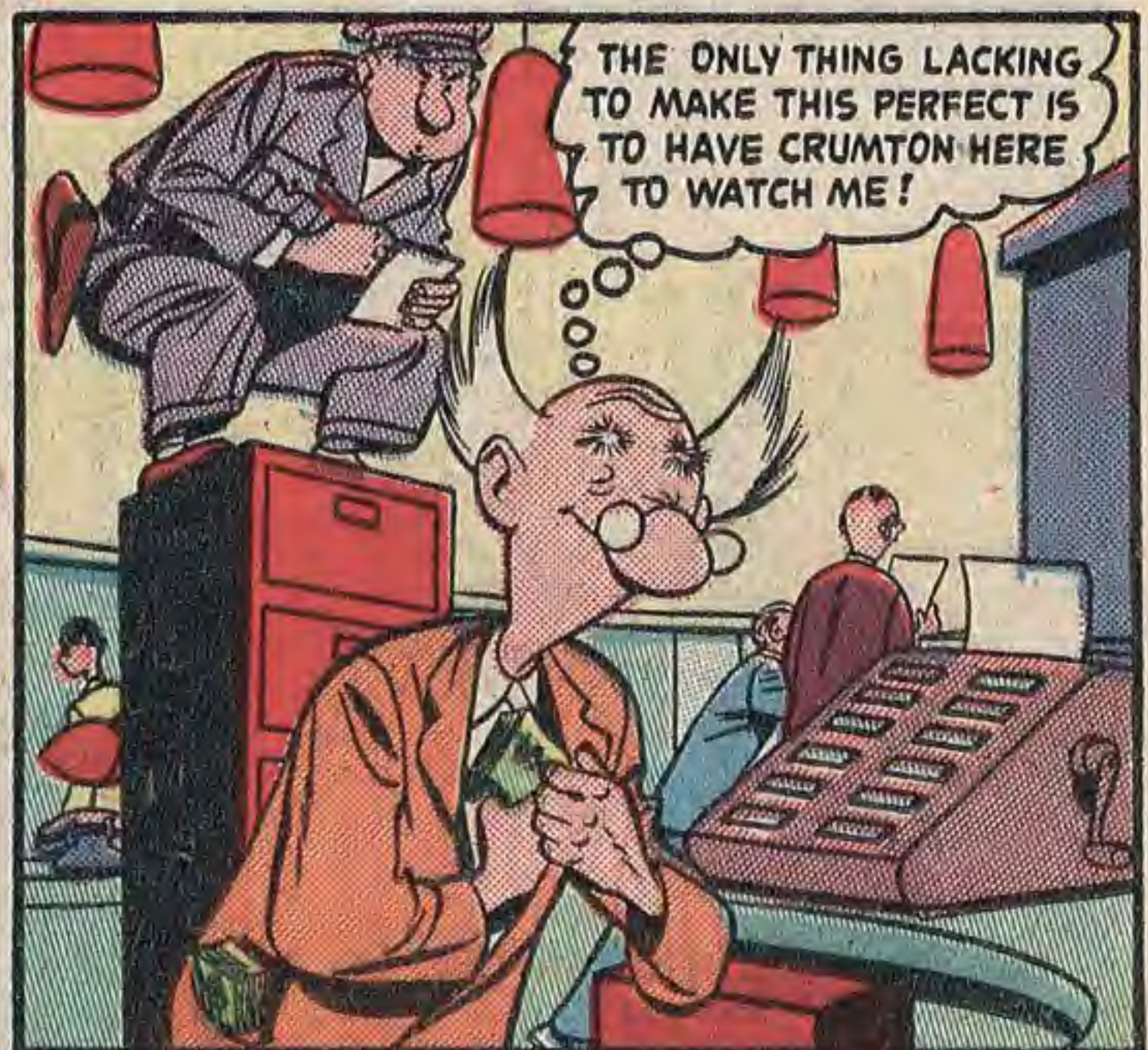
NEXT MORNING...

HMM! PLENTY OF
TELLERS AROUND TO-DAY!
I GUESS THE OLD BOY WAS
KIDDING ME YESTERDAY! THEY
WERE JUST OUT TO LUNCH OR
SOMETHING!

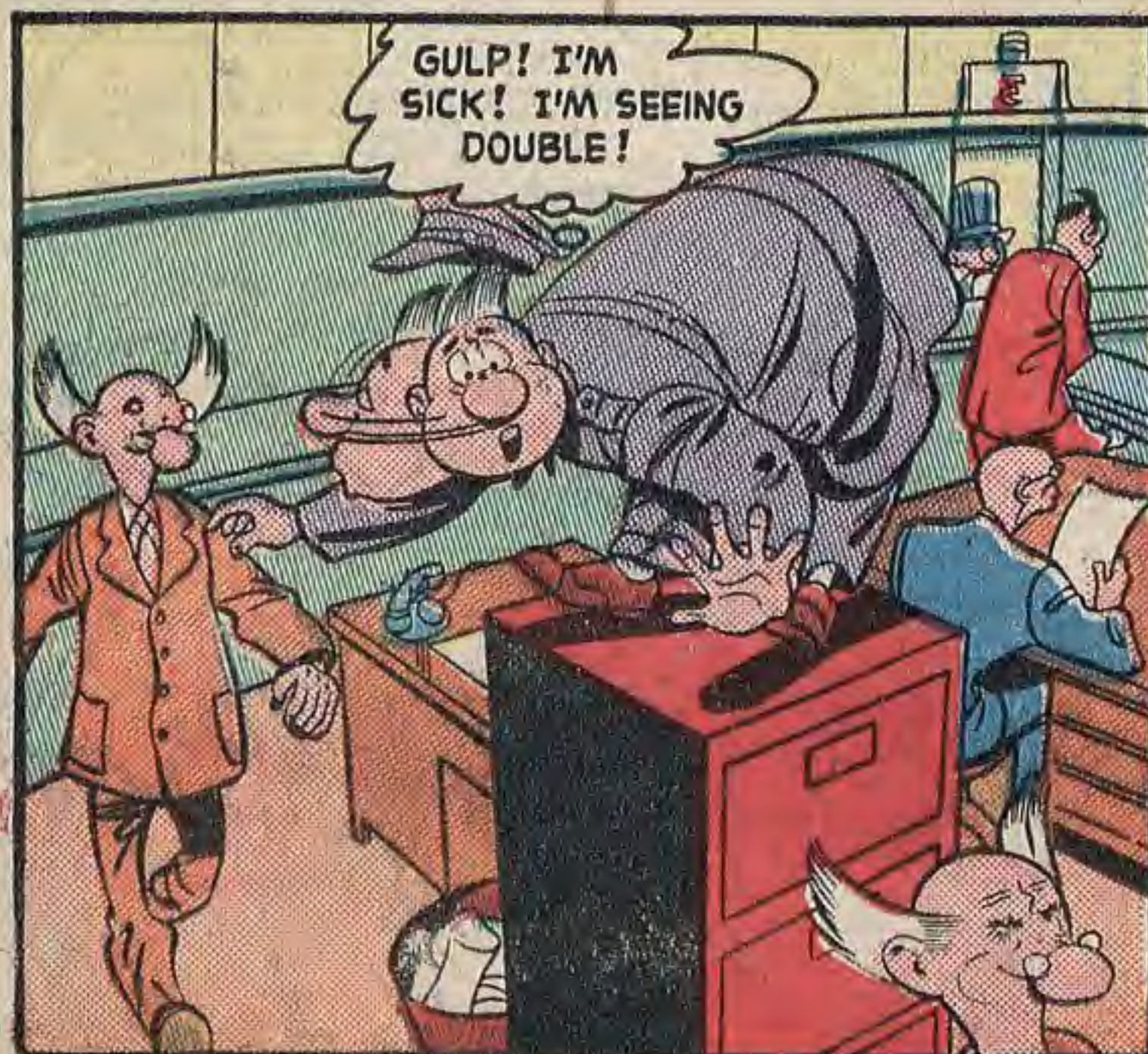


NOT THAT IT MATTERS!
I'LL BE READY TO QUIT
IN A FEW MINUTES, AND
THEN WHO CARES HOW
THEY RUN THIS BANK!

THAT GUY'S ROBBING THE
BANK! I OUGHT TO DO
SOMETHING BUT PLAS SAID
NOT TO! THIS IS KILLING ME!



THE ONLY THING LACKING
TO MAKE THIS PERFECT IS
TO HAVE CRUMTON HERE
TO WATCH ME!



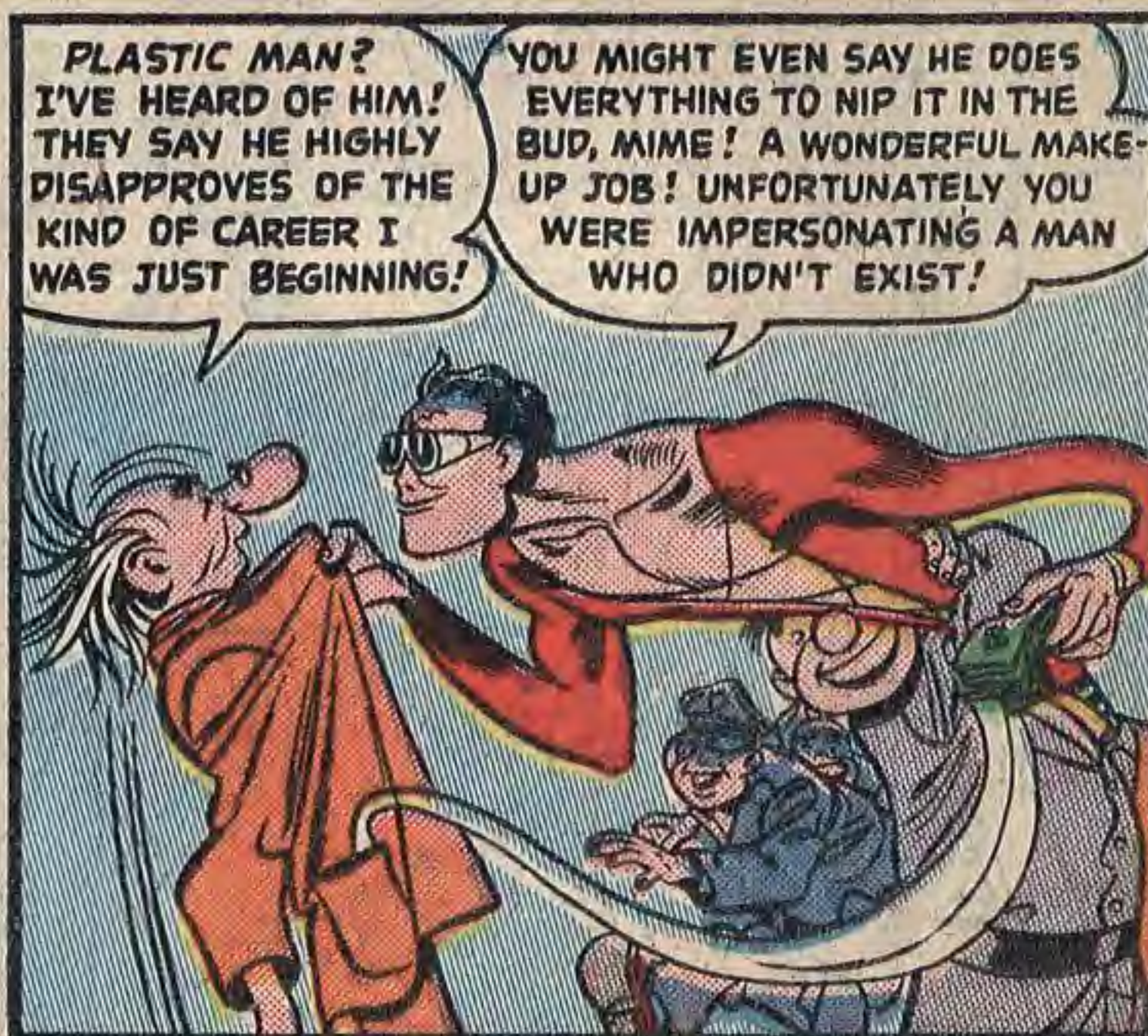
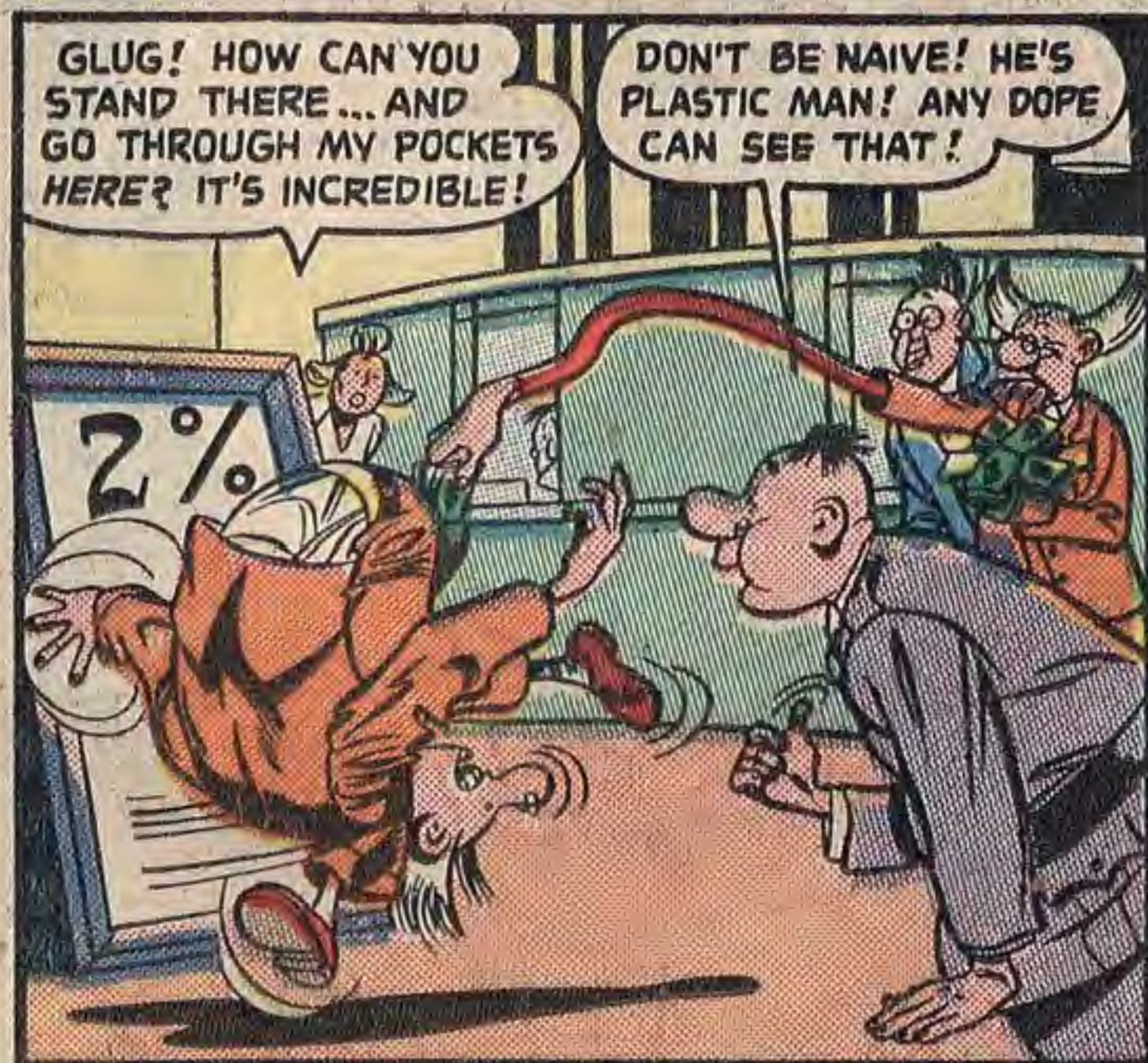
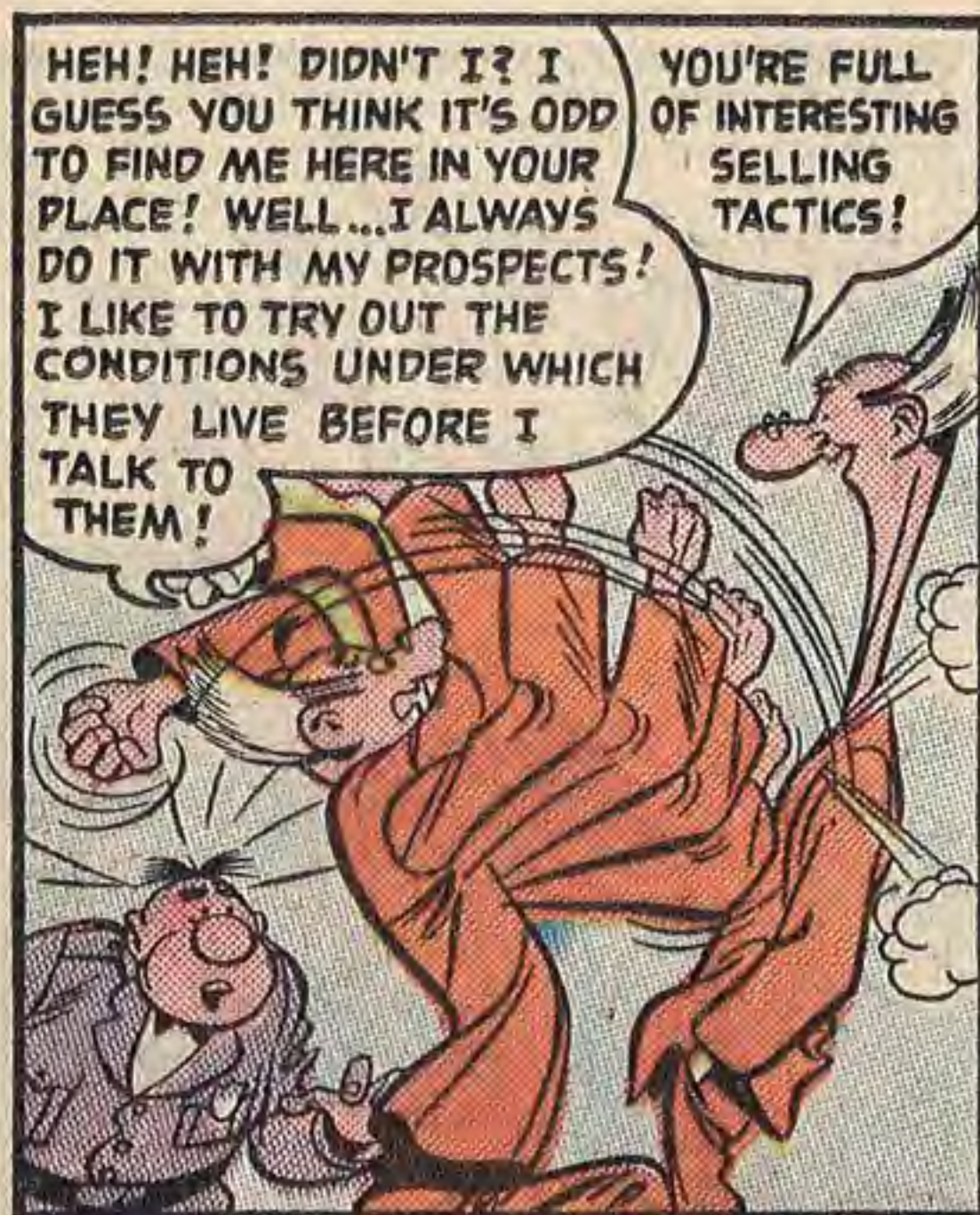
GULP! I'M
SICK! I'M SEEING
DOUBLE!

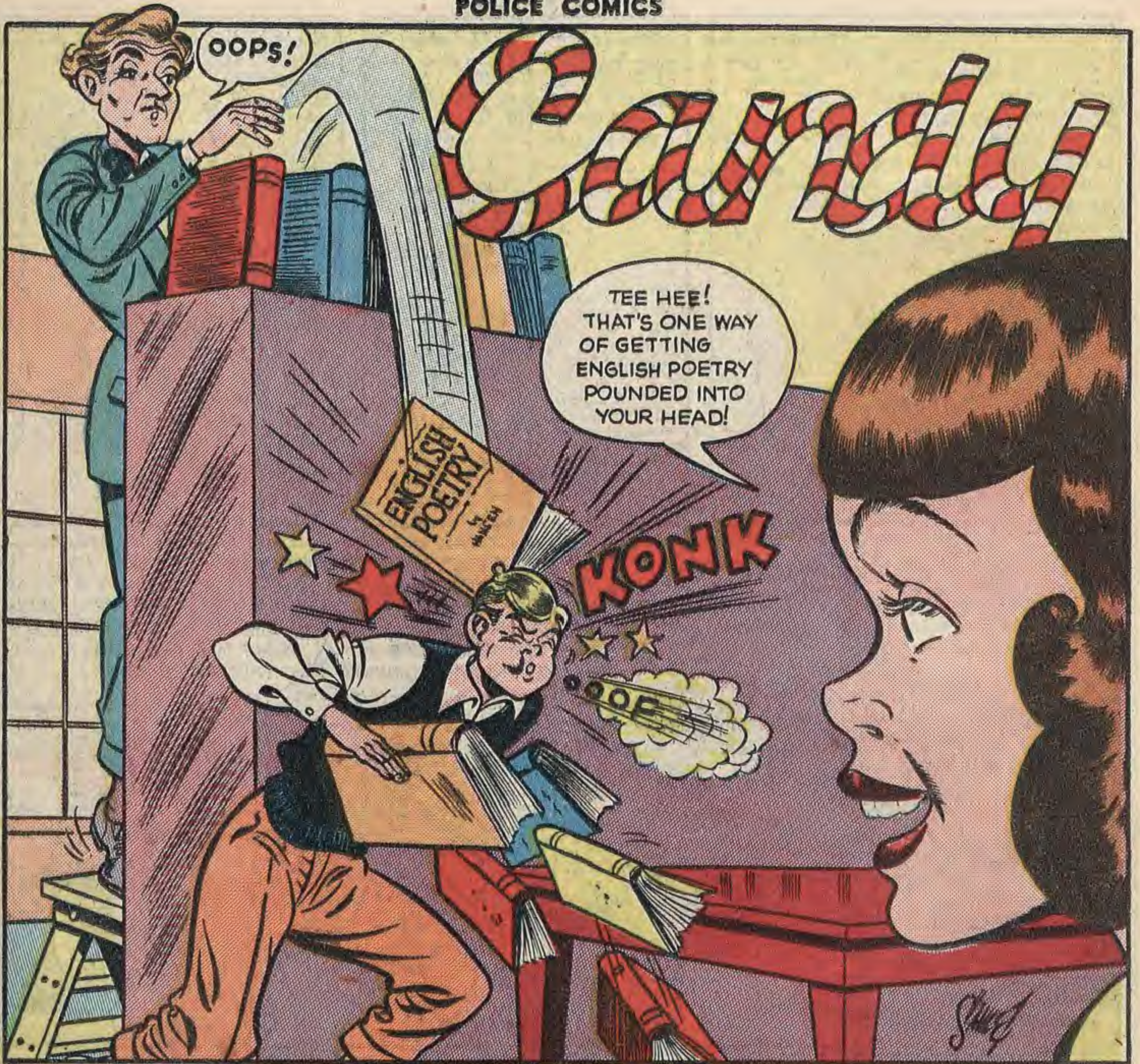


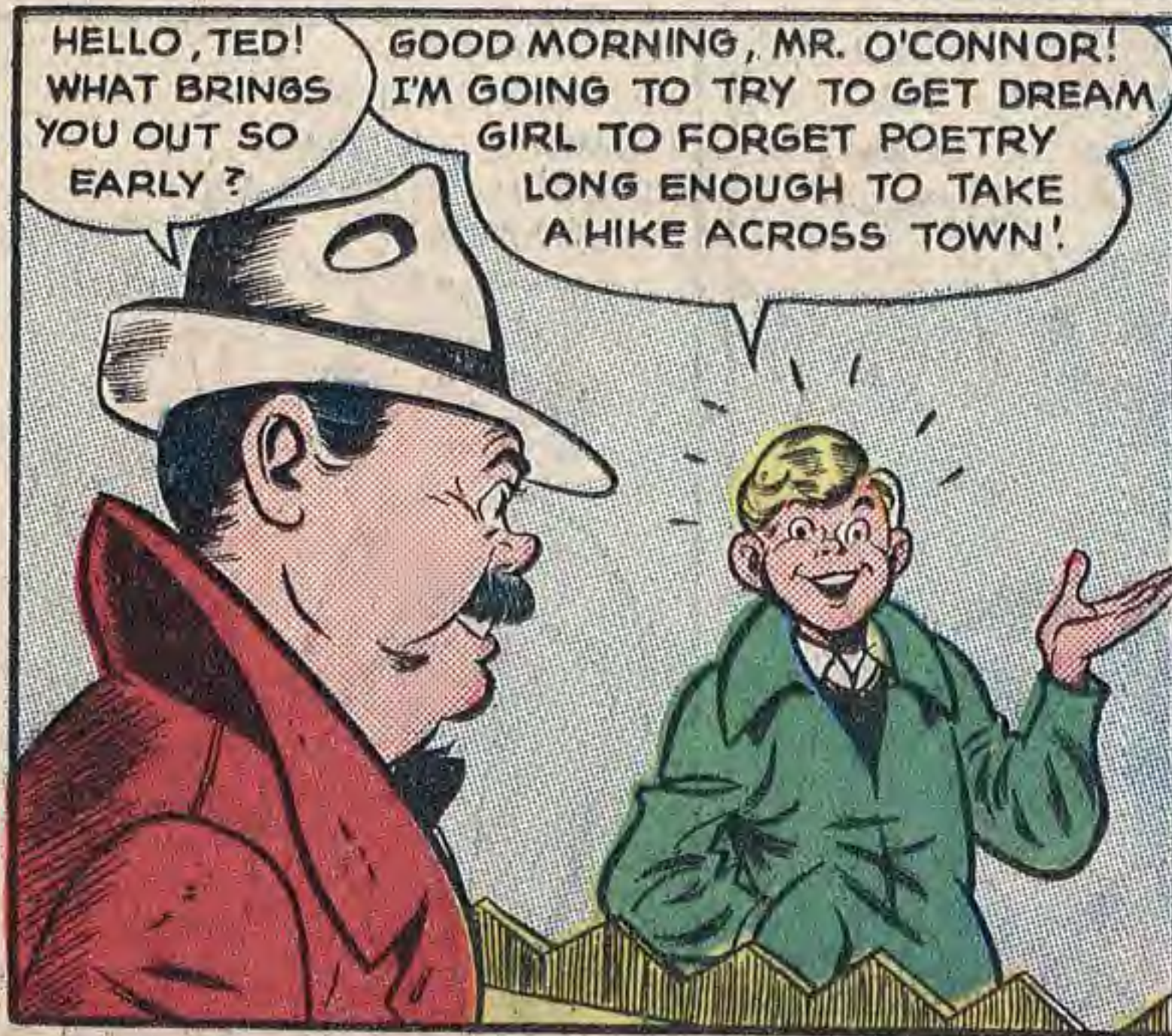
THAT DOES IT! FOUR
HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS!
ENOUGH TO KEEP ME IN
LUXURY FOR LIFE! GRAWK!

YOU NEVER DID
FINISH TELLING
ME ABOUT THE
ANNUITY PLAN!

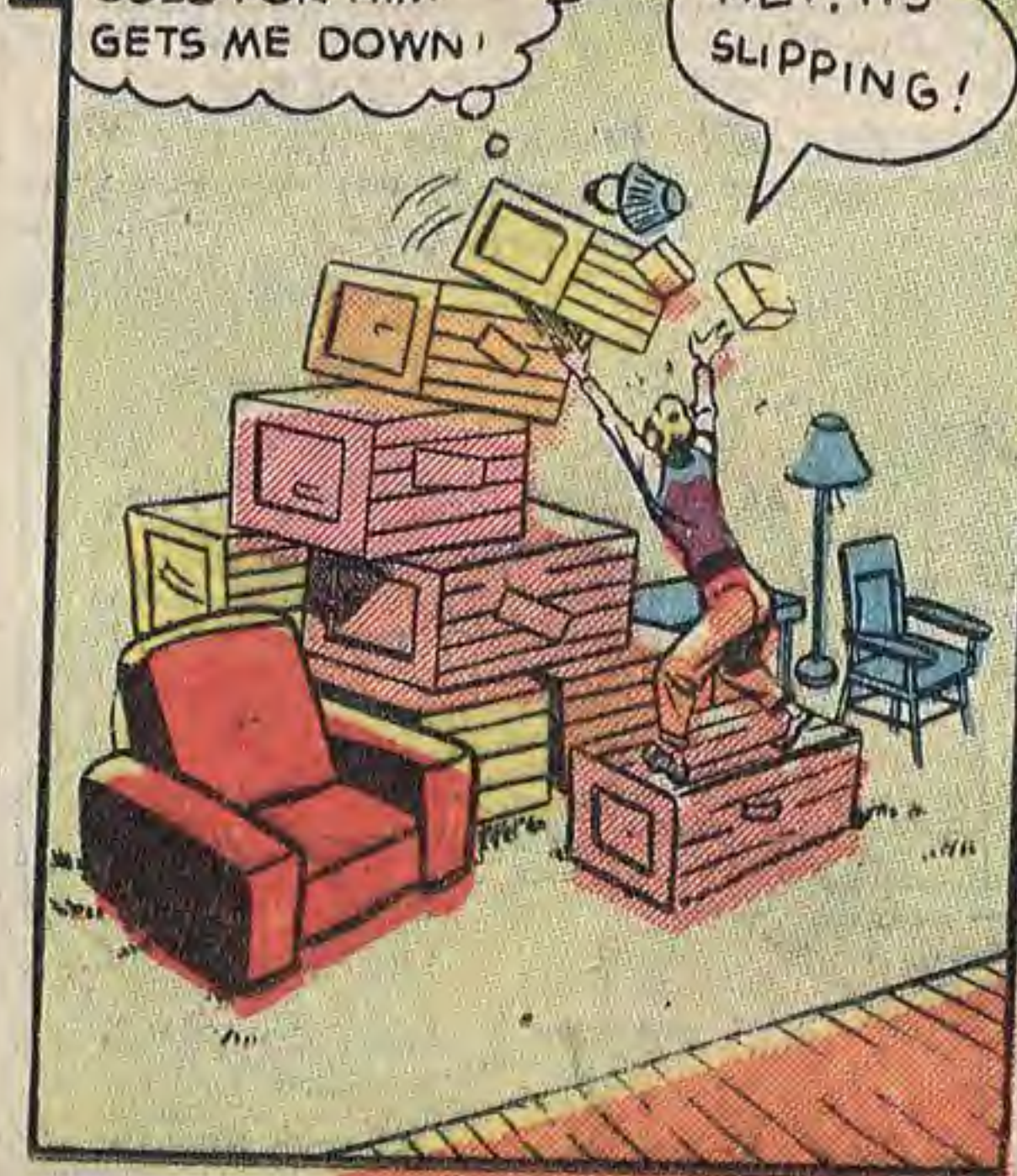
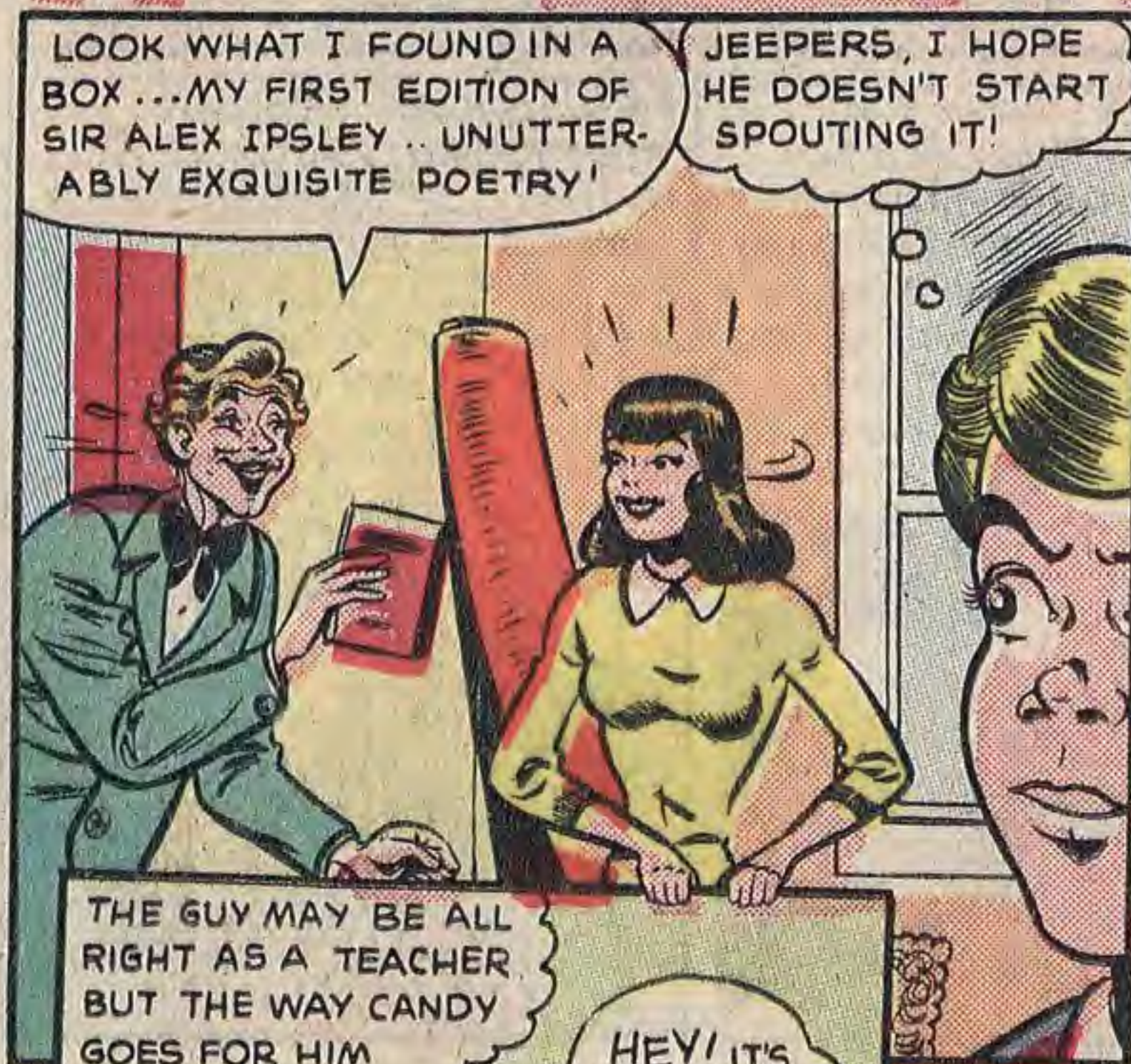
POLICE COMICS









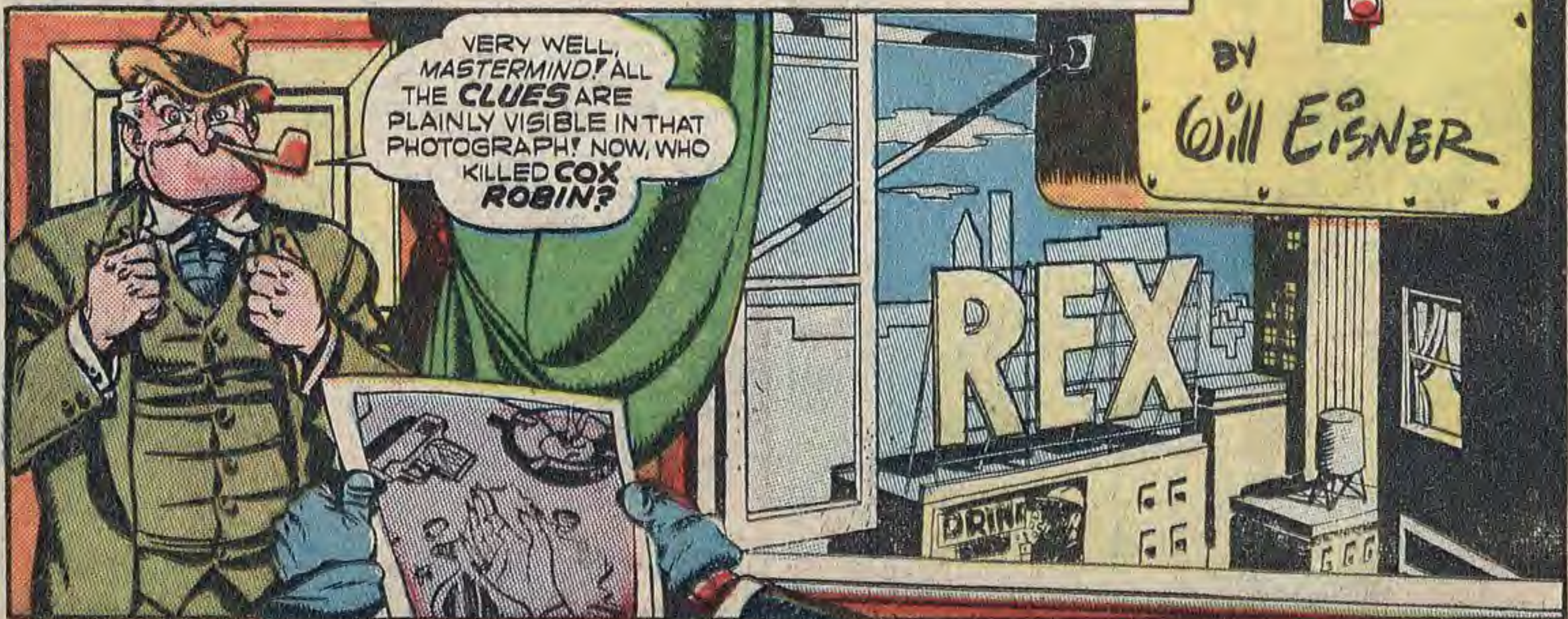
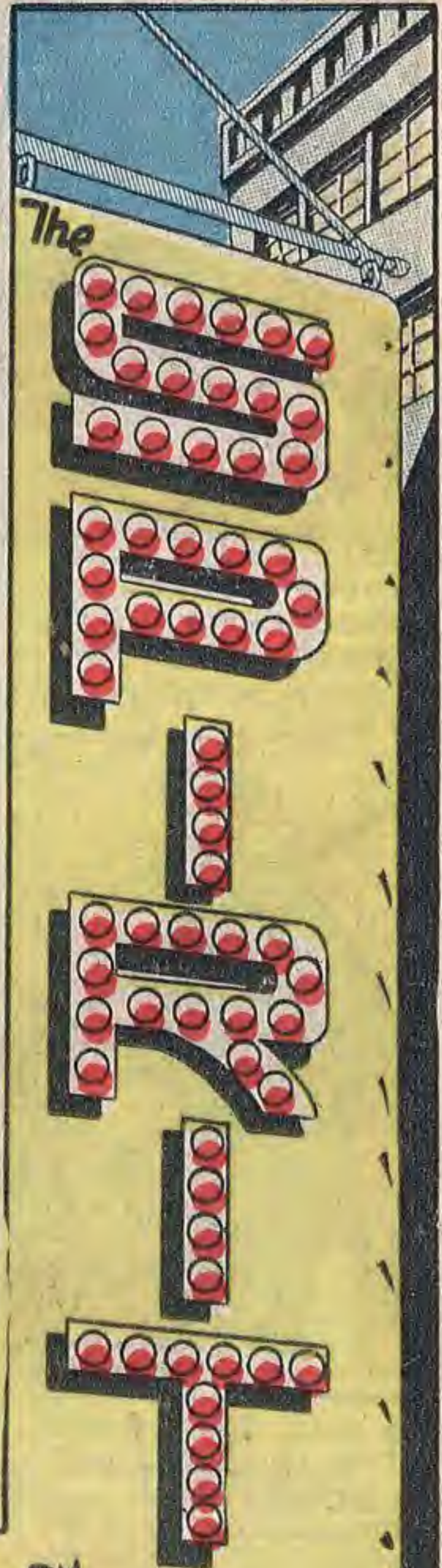


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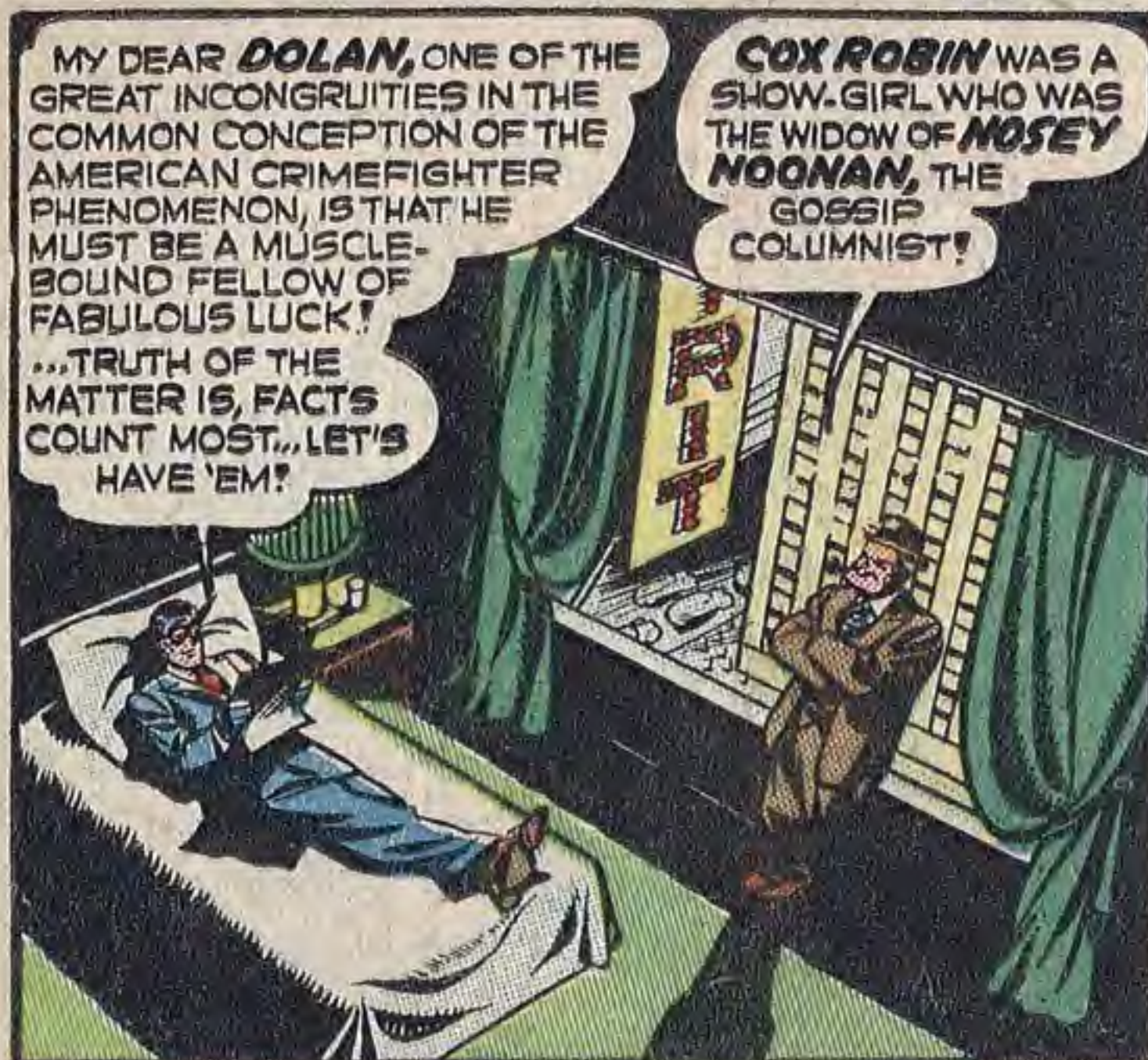


POLICE COMICS





BY
Will Eisner



MY DEAR **DOLAN**, ONE OF THE GREAT INCONGRUITIES IN THE COMMON CONCEPTION OF THE AMERICAN CRIMEFIGHTER PHENOMENON, IS THAT HE MUST BE A MUSCLE-BOUND FELLOW OF FABULOUS LUCK! ...TRUTH OF THE MATTER IS, FACTS COUNT MOST...LET'S HAVE 'EM!

COX ROBIN WAS A SHOW-GIRL WHO WAS THE WIDOW OF **NOSEY NOONAN**, THE GOSSIP COLUMNIST!



I FOUND HER IN THIS APARTMENT...TOOK A PHOTO OF THE SCENE... THIS PHOTO, WHICH NOW SEEMS TO CONTAIN THE SOLUTION, IS ALL THE EVIDENCE!

THE SOLUTION OF A CRIME IS A SCIENTIFIC THING...IT'S A FORM OF MATHEMATICS... ALL THAT IS NEEDED IS **REASON-ING POWER!** A FEW WELL-AIMED QUESTIONS...A BIT OF ADDITION AND **PRESTO!** THE ANSWER IS CLEAR!



FOR EXAMPLE, WHEN WAS SHE FOUND? HOW WAS SHE DRESSED?

5 A.M.! EVENING GOWN!



HER APARTMENT?

NO ADDRESS... SHE'D SOLD EVERYTHING TO ORDINARY FOLK WHEN **NOONAN** DIED! NO KNOWN ADDRESS!



THIS IS **KILLER QUIGLY'S** APARTMENT! I FOUND HER HERE!



VERY WELL, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO SOLVE THE CRIME WITHOUT MOVING FROM THIS CHAIR!



NOW, THE DAINTY, PEARL-HANDLED .25, CLEARLY BELONGED TO HER! THE CIGARETTES IN THE ASH-TRAY HAVE **NO LIPSTICK** MARKS... INDICATING THAT *SHE* WASN'T IN THE ROOM LONG!

SHOT?

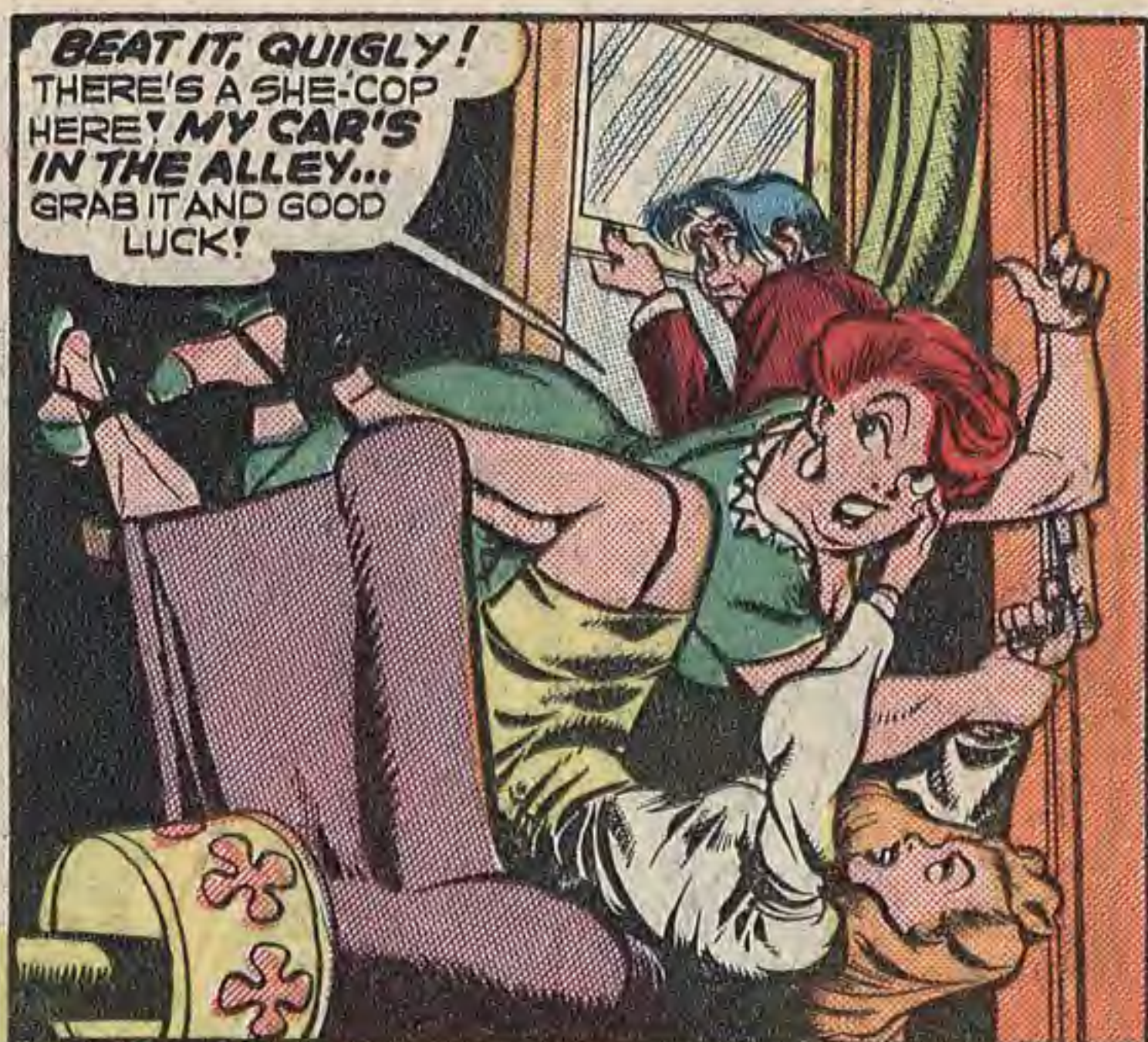
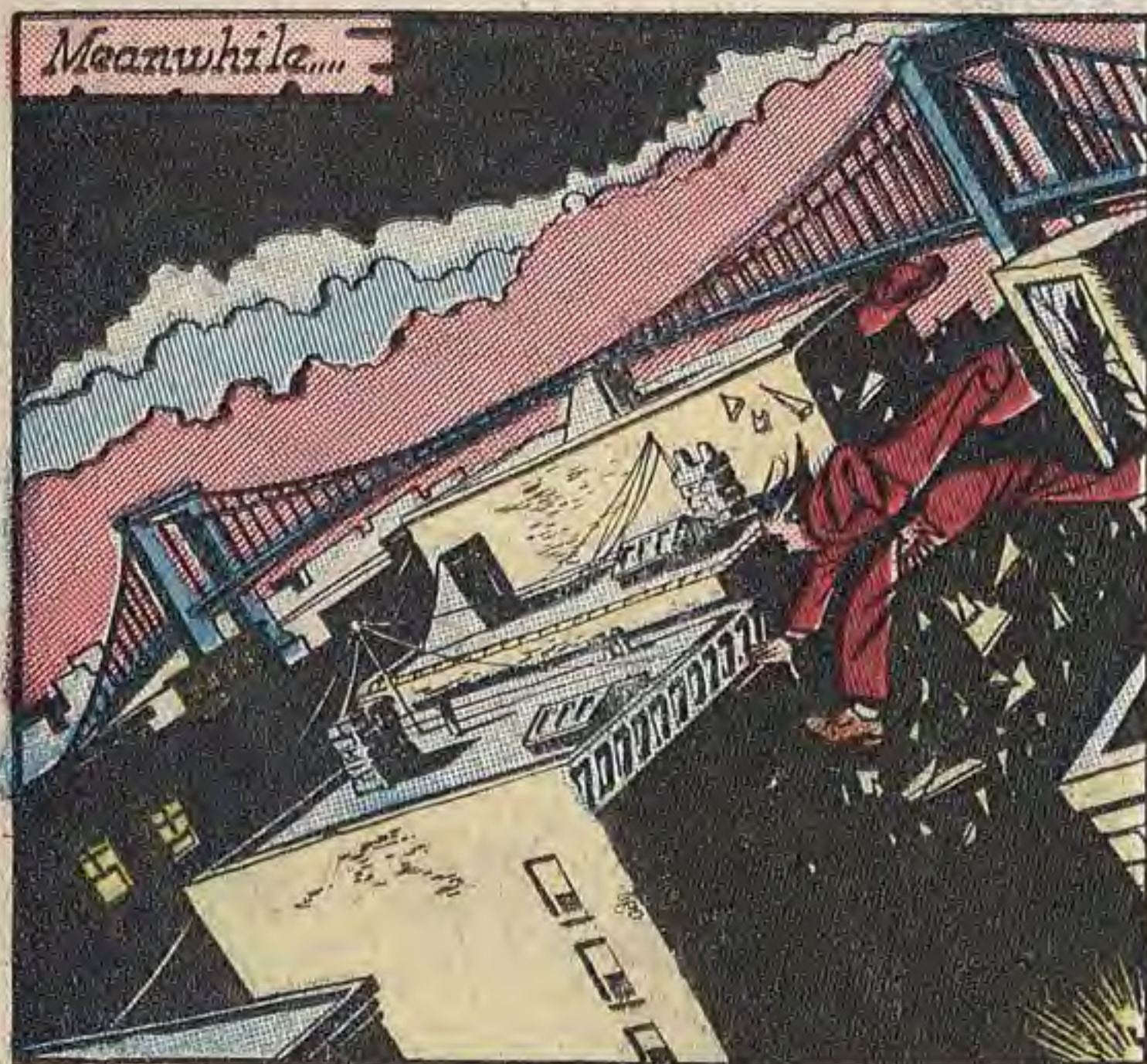


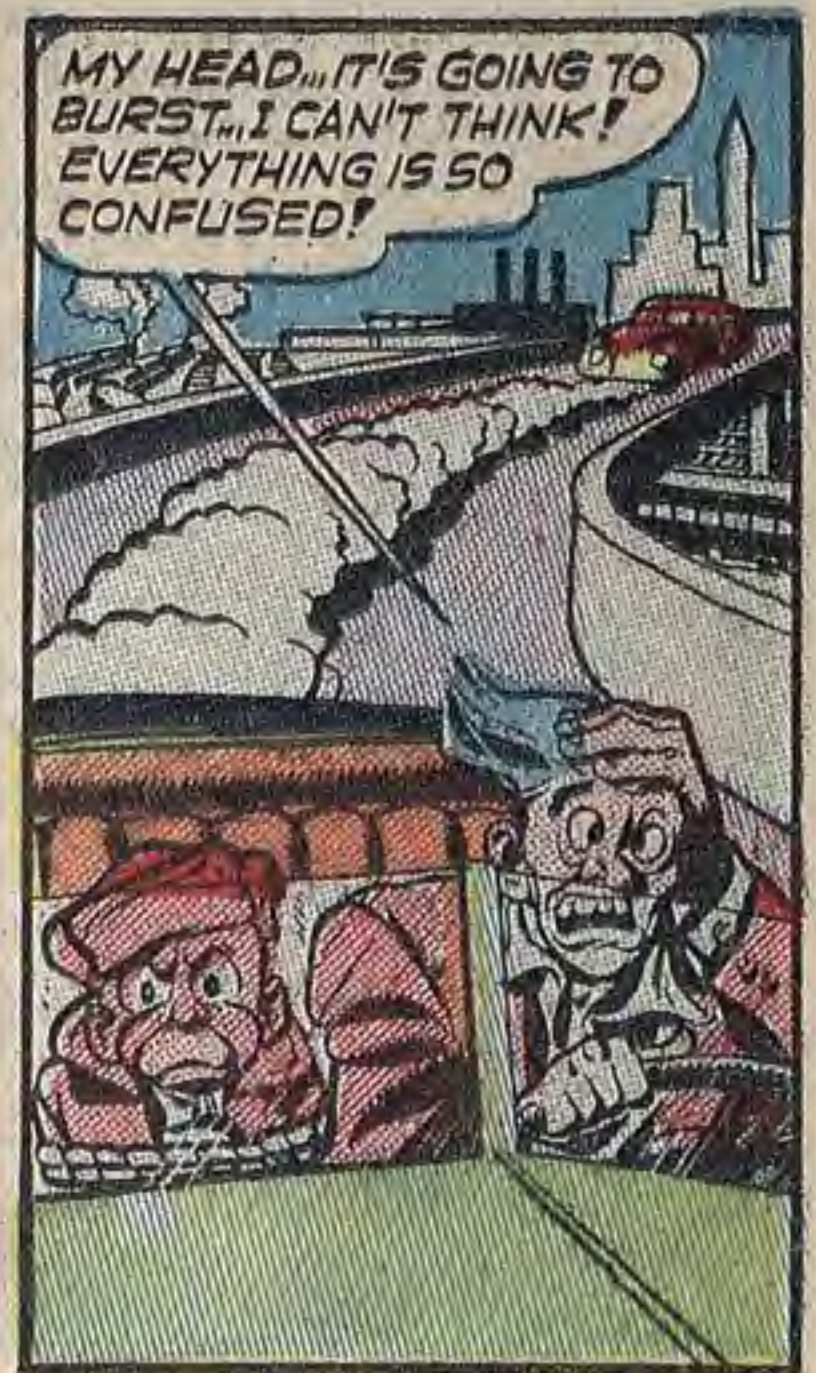
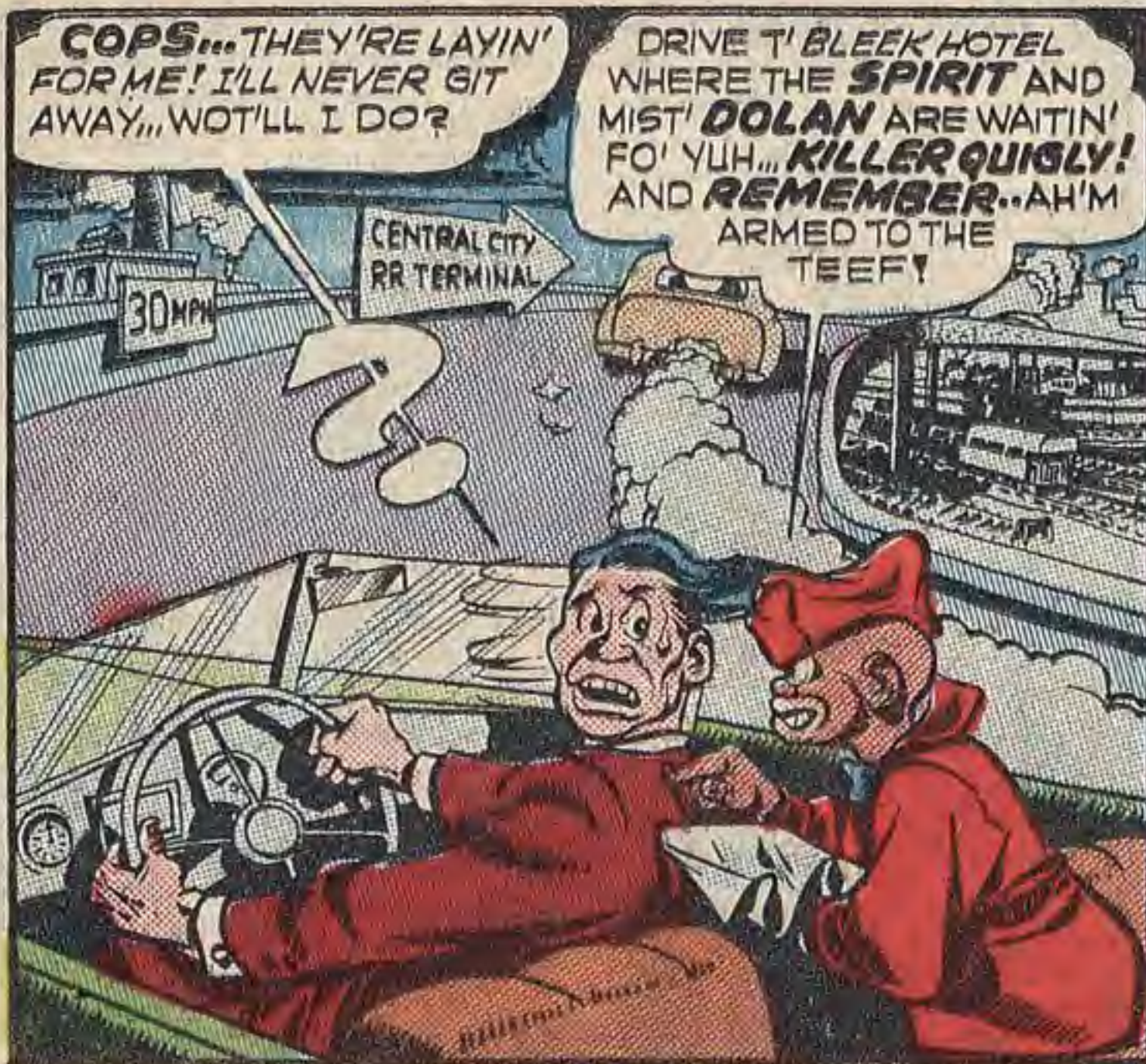
STABBED! THE EMPTY CARTRIDGE CASE IS TOO BIG TO BE A .25... MORE LIKELY TO BE A .45... COMPARE THE OPENINGS TO THE MUZZLE OF THE GUN!



I SEE! THAT INDICATES HER GUN WAS A **PLANT!**

BUT THE RING... YOU'VE OVERLOOKED **THE RING!**







MISTER QUIGLY, YOU
OKAY? GOLLY, YOU ARE
SMASHED TO A HASH!
GULP... GULP... BEFO' YO'
DIE, TELL ME--WHUT DID
YO' DO WIF **MIST'**
DOLAN?

DOLAN..GASP...
DOLAN?? WHY, I HAD
A DRINK WITH HIM IN MY
APARTMENT AND HE TOOK
MY RING AND LEFT, SAYING
HE NEEDED IT TO CLEAR
THE 'COX ROBIN'
MURDER!

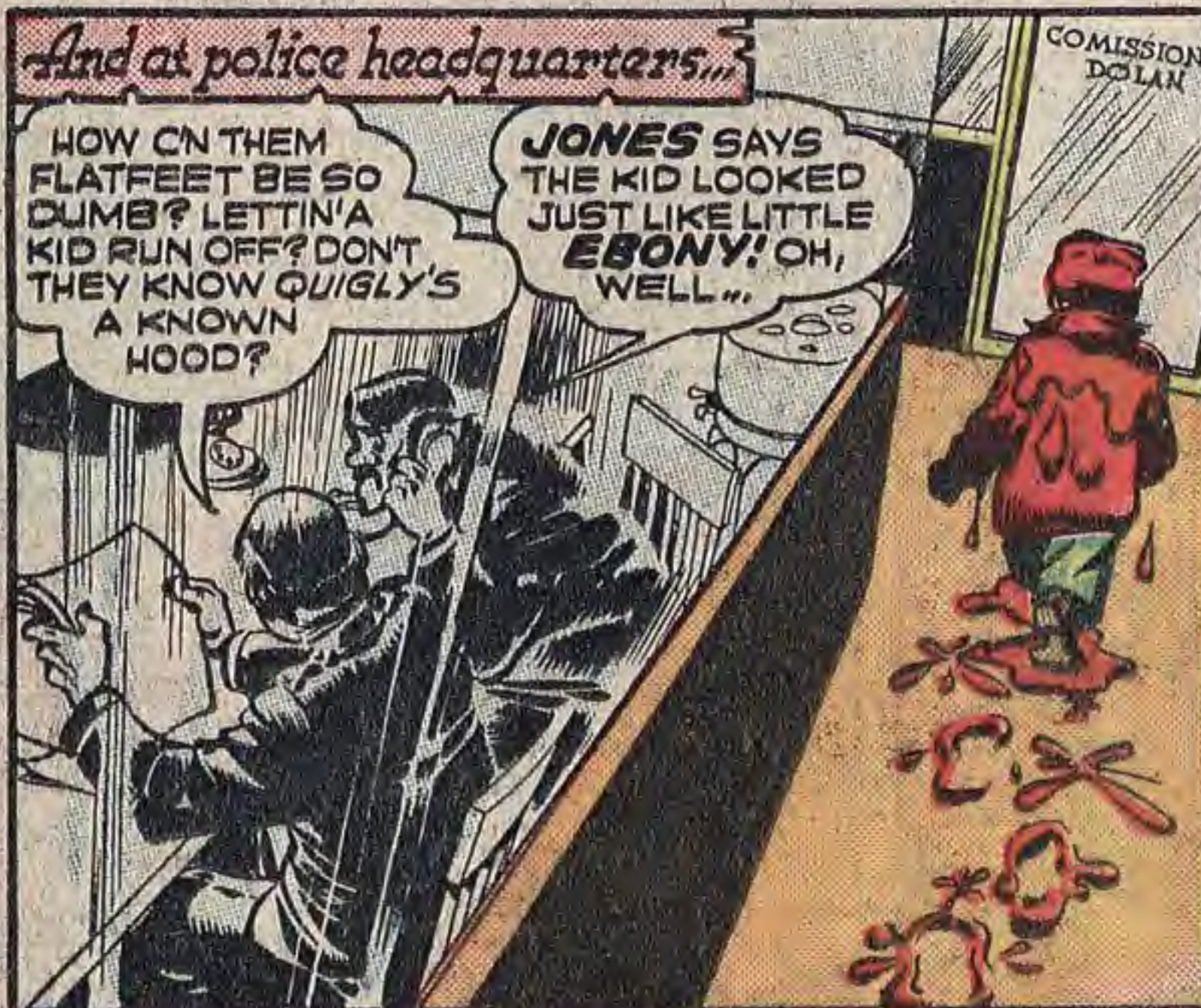
GASP!



A few minutes later...

YES, LIEUTENANT, HE'S
DEAD! NAME'S **QUIGLY!**
USUAL MOTOR ACCIDENT...
TRIED TO BEAT THE
TRAIN TO THE
CROSSING!

TELL HIM THERE WAS
A KID WITH HIM... HE
RAN OFF!

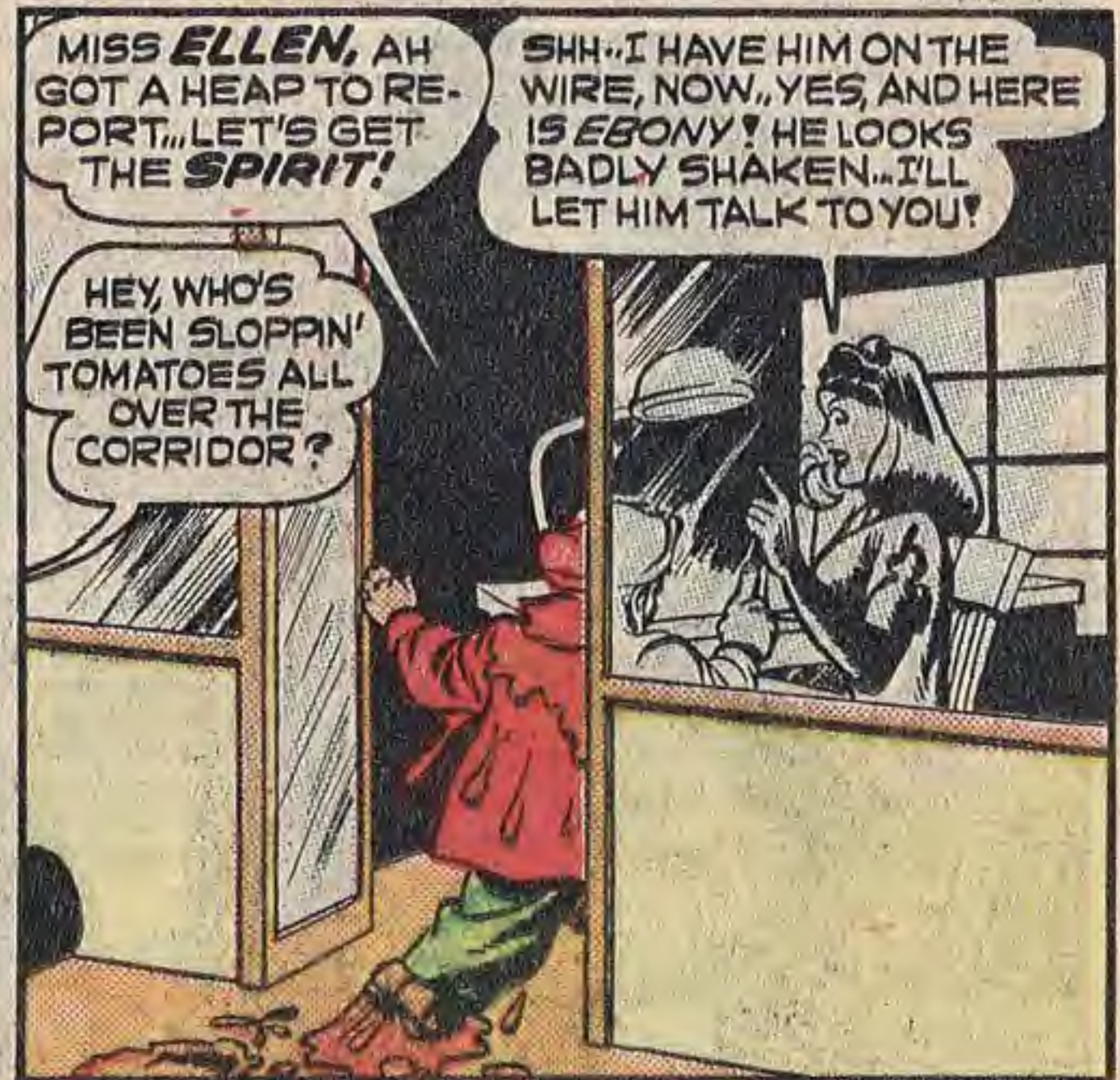


And at police headquarters...

HOW CN THEM
FLATFEET BE SO
DUMB? LETTIN' A
KID RUN OFF? DON'T
THEY KNOW **QUIGLY'S**
A KNOWN
HOOD?

JONES SAYS
THE KID LOOKED
JUST LIKE LITTLE
EBONY! OH,
WELL...

COMMISSION
DOLAN



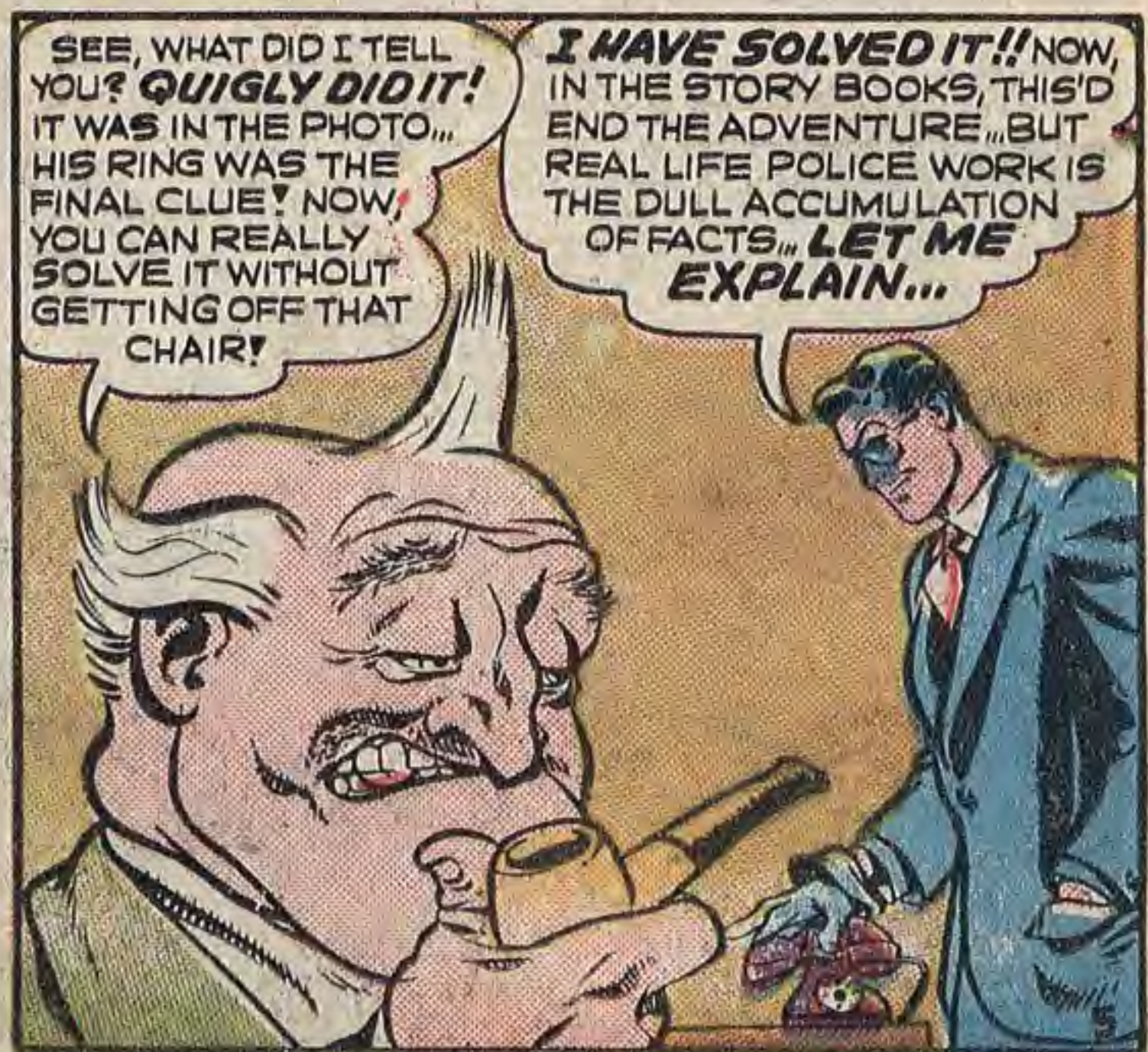
MISS ELLEN, AH
GOT A HEAP TO RE-
PORT... LET'S GET
THE **SPIRIT!**

SHH... I HAVE HIM ON THE
WIRE, NOW... YES, AND HERE
IS **EBONY!** HE LOOKS
BADLY SHAKEN... I'LL
LET HIM TALK TO YOU!

HEY, WHO'S
BEEN SLOPPIN'
TOMATOES ALL
OVER THE
CORRIDOR?



...YES, GO ON... INDEED?? HE WAS
TRYING TO MAKE A GETAWAY? AND
YOU DARINGLY CAPTURED HIM?
...TEE HEE... NO, GO ON, I BELIEVE
YOU! OH, **QUIGLY'S** DEAD, EH?
DID YOU NOTICE A RING ON
HIS FINGER? NO? HMM,
THANKS!



SEE, WHAT DID I TELL
YOU? **QUIGLY DID IT!**
IT WAS IN THE PHOTO...
HIS RING WAS THE
FINAL CLUE! NOW,
YOU CAN REALLY
SOLVE IT WITHOUT
GETTING OFF THAT
CHAIR!

I HAVE SOLVED IT!! NOW,
IN THE STORY BOOKS, THIS'D
END THE ADVENTURE... BUT
REAL LIFE POLICE WORK IS
THE DULL ACCUMULATION
OF FACTS... **LET ME
EXPLAIN...**



POLICE COMICS

NOW...THIS IS THE POINT AT WHICH THE SHERLOCK HOLMES TYPE OF CRIME-BUSTER MUST LEAVE HIS CHAIR!



AND ADD TO THOSE MATHEMATICAL DEDUCTIONS THE APPLICATION OF **BRUTE** FORCE!



FOR AFTER ALL, A KILLER IS A BRUTE!



ONLY AN ACTOR COULD HAVE HAD THE NERVE TO THINK HE'D GET AWAY WITH IMPERSONATING A POLICE COMMISSIONER AND **COX ROBIN** WAS BLACKMAILING ACTORS!



NOW FOR THE **REAL DOLAN**...YOU CALLED **DOLAN**...TOLD HIM YOU HAD A CLUE...TO MEET YOU HERE...HE CAME, LEAVING A NOTE FOR ME TO FOLLOW...HE GETS HERE...IS BOPPED...STUFFED IN CLOSET...AND WHEN I ARRIVE, THE PLAY IS READY TO BEGIN!



HELLO...YEAH, I'M OKAY! NO, JUST SEND A SQUAD CAR OVER...I'VE SOLVED THE **COX ROBIN** CASE!

...AND THAT ENDS OUR LESSON FOR TODAY!



LOADED SHELL

DAB DENBY was an odd man in many ways. He was, for example, an inveterate collector of things curious or rare or unusual. He had two ambitions in his queer life and sometimes the two warred with each other.

One ambition was to be the most successful jewel thief in all history. The other ambition was to become famous for the world's finest collection of rare sea shells. This is known as conchology to shell collectors, and Dab Denby was already a conchologist of some note. He had donated a rare whelk shell to the National Museum and it reposed there now, with Denby's name printed bold on the card. He was almost as proud of that distinction as he was of being the man who stole the Embassy Emerald single-handed. The only difference was that the police could prove one distinction but not the other.

The Chief, chatting with Plastic Man in FBI headquarters, spoke grimly of this. "He's too clever to be caught at his game, Plastic. Ordinary police methods can't touch him."

"You're telling me, Chief," Plas said thoughtfully. "We're positive right now that he's the bird who lifted the Embassy Emerald yesterday, but there's no evidence. He has a sound-proof, windowless room where he keeps his collections and unless somebody could get in there to watch him, we can't tell what he does alone. But it's my guess he takes out his stolen jewels and admires them and gloats over them. He's that kind."

"Hmm," Chief Brenner said thoughtfully. "Maybe we should get a couple of trained mice and appoint them as FBI agents. They could get a look in that room. Or maybe an oyster. He collects shells."

Plastic Man leaped up so excitedly that he forgot his own strength and bounced back and forth between floor and ceiling for a full minute before he could settle himself. The Chief growled, "I wish you wouldn't do that. You make me nervous, Plastic."

"I've got an idea," Plas said. "You are a good friend of the curator of the National Museum, aren't you? Get him to write me a note I'll dictate and we may have our man right where we want him."

The Chief looked at the grim determination on Plastic Man's flexible face and reached for the telephone. When Plas got an idea, then law-

breakers had better take cover or pay the penalty.

Late that afternoon an expressman rang the bell of Denby's ornate penthouse and pointed to an immense crate. "It's from the National Museum, mister. That's all I know. Sign here and I'll lug it in."

"Never mind," Dab Denby said hastily. "I prefer to take it in myself." He signed the slip and, the moment the expressman had gone, hoisted the heavy crate and staggered into his inner room. A moment later he was gaping at an enormous, rosy-red shell of peculiar design that had been crated in the big box. He read the note attached. "Why, it's a present from the head of the Museum, in honor of my gift to them. What a beautiful shell. It's by far the biggest and most gorgeous in my whole collection."

He admired his prize for a time and then peered furtively around. "What a week this is—two rare prizes in as many days." He touched a spring that opened a secret compartment in his desk.

A moment later he was fondling a gigantic glowing emerald he had taken from a nest of cotton within the secret chamber. "The world's largest emerald," Denby murmured, "and the world's largest shell. What trophies. I am almost at the pinnacle of my ambition."

"How about another prize?" A pleasant voice broke on his ear. "How about the world's greatest sock on the jaw, my friend?"

Denby fell back, bleating in shocked terror as the giant shell on his desk suddenly seemed to melt and change form and become the figure of Plastic Man, curled into shell shape. Plas grinned and a fist lashed out to block Denby's sudden terrified grab for a gun in the desk drawer. "No, you don't," Plas said happily. "We've got business that doesn't concern guns, Dab."

His fists cracked out, right and left. There were two sharp cracks and Denby went end-over-end across the room to end up as a quivering heap against the wall. Plastic Man stared at him for a moment and then shrugged in disappointment as Denby made no further move to fight or flee.

"Okay," Plas said, reaching for the telephone. "You'll have a nice, long time to meditate on your collections, Denby. Too bad for you, you didn't know that last shell was loaded."

MANHUNTER



AS OFFICER DAN RICHARDS RETURNS FROM DUTY...

YOU ALWAYS COMPLAIN THAT YOU'VE NEVER SEEN MANHUNTER IN PERSON, DAN! LOOK, THERE HE GOES, INTO THE HEADQUARTERS BUILDING!

WH-WHAT?

COME ON IN AND MEET HIM! HE'S A SWELL GUY... BEST FRIEND WE COPS EVER HAD!

THAT MAN IN MANHUNTER UNIFORM IS AN IMPOSTER... BECAUSE I'M MANHUNTER!

CAPTAIN, DIDN'T MANHUNTER COME IN?

QUICK... YOU TWO AND EVERYONE ELSE NOT ON ASSIGNMENT! INTO THE RIOT CARS... WE'RE GOING ACROSS TOWN TO THE BIG RIVER BRIDGE! IT'S IN DANGER!





POLICE COMICS

MANHUNTER IN WITH CROOKS? IMPOSSIBLE! HE'S ALWAYS BEEN A BRILLIANT FIGHTER ON THE SIDE OF THE LAW!

SOMETIMES THE MINDS OF BRILLIANT PEOPLE BECOME UNSETTLED! ANYWAY, LET'S MAKE HIM EXPLAIN!

YES, I'D LIKE TO HEAR HIS REASONS FOR DOING WHAT HE DID!

CAPTAIN, SEND OUT AN ORDER! I WANT MANHUNTER BROUGHT IN FOR QUESTIONING!

LEAVING HEADQUARTERS, OFFICER RICHARDS SEEKS PRIVACY AND...

ARF!

COME ALONG, THOR! LET'S GO TO THAT BRIDGE AND PICK UP THE TRAIL OF THE MAN WHO PALMED HIMSELF OFF AS THE REAL MANHUNTER!

WHOEVER PLANTED THIS PACKAGE IS PROBABLY CONNECTED WITH THE FAKE MANHUNTER!

THERE HE IS, BEGORRA...RETURNED TO THE SCENE OF HIS CRIME!

YES, CAPTAIN... MANHUNTER HIMSELF! AT THE BRIDGE AND HEADIN' UPTOWN! I'LL FOLLOW HIM QUIET-LIKE, WHILE YOU COLLECT SOME MORE OF THE BOYS!

BLANK WALL, THOR! BUT YOU THINK THE TRAIL FOLLOWS THE LADDER UPWARDS, IS THAT IT?

WUF! WUF!

ARF!

THAT'S RIGHT! STAY THERE WHILE I CHECK UP ON WHAT'S TOPSIDE!

POLICE COMICS



WE KILLED TWO BIRDS WITH ONE STONE! TOOK THE BANK FOR A NICE CHUNK OF DOUGH... AND MADE A MONKEY OUT OF THAT LAW-LOVING MANHUNTER!



BY NOW THE POLICE RESERVES HAVE FOUND THAT WHILE THEY WERE LOOKING FOR THE BOMB THAT WASN'T THERE, THE BANK WAS ROBBED!



MAYBE WE SHOULD'VE KEPT MANHUNTER'S REPUTATION UP FOR HIM, MAKEUP! NEXT TIME THE COPS SEE YOU IN THAT RIG, THEY'LL ASK YOU SOME UNPLEASANT QUESTIONS!



DON'T WORRY! I CAN IMPERSONATE SOMEBODY ELSE NEXT TIME...THE MAYOR, THE POLICE COMMISSIONER! LEAVE IT TO ME, LUMPY!

OKAY, MAKEUP! WE'LL GO INTO THE NEXT ROOM TO COUNT THE CABBAGE!



SO THEY CALL YOU MAKEUP, EH? WELL, I'LL MARK YOUR FACE SO YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO CHANGE IT!

MANHUNTER! STAY AWAY FROM ME, OR...



NOW YOU CAN IMPERSONATE A STUDY IN STILL LIFE!



NINE HUNDRED, ONE GRAND, ONE GRAND AND...

IS THAT MAKEUP, OR...



NO, IT'S MAN-HUNTER!

MARBLES! HELP ME PULVERIZE THE GUY!



POLICE COMICS



This mammoth bridge is made entirely of Erector girders. So strong it can support 200-lb. man.

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